

1 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

2 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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5 In the Matter of:

6 LEHMAN BROTHERS HOLDINGS, INC., CAUSE NO.

7 et al, 08-13555(JMP)

8 Debtors.

9 - - - - - x

10 In re

11 LEHMAN BROTHERS, INC., CAUSE NO.

12 Debtor. 08-01420(JMP)(SIPA)

13 - - - - - x

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15 U.S. Bankruptcy Court

16 One Bowling Green

17 New York, New York

18

19 January 16, 2013

20 10:03 AM

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22 B E F O R E:

23 HON. JAMES M. PECK

24 U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

25 ECRO: TB

1 HEARING re Status Conferences:

2 1) Joint Motion of Lehman Brothers Holdings, Inc. and  
3 Litigation Subcommittee of Creditors committee to Extend  
4 Stay of Avoidance Actions and Grant Certain Related Relief  
5 (ECF No. 33322)

6 2) LBHI's Objection to Proofs of Claim Number 14824  
7 and 14826 (ECF No. 30055)

8 3) Hearing to Consider Objections to Purported Claims  
9 Transfers to Stichting Value Foundation (ECF No. 32646)

10 4) Motion of Traxis Fund LP and Traxis Emerging  
11 Market Opportunities Fund LP to Compel Debtors to Reissue  
12 Distribution Checks for Allowed Claims (ECF No. 32163)

13

14 HEARING re Uncontested Matter: First and Final Fee  
15 Application of Epiq Bankruptcy Solutions, LLC, as  
16 Solicitation and Voting Agent to the Debtors for Allowance  
17 and Payment of Compensation for Professional Services  
18 Rendered and For Reimbursement of Actual and Necessary  
19 Expenses Incurred from September 1, 2011 through December 6,  
20 2011 (ECF No. 27762)

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1 HEARING re Adversary Proceedings:

2 1) Walton, et al v Lehman Brothers, Inc., et al

3 (Adversary Case No. 12-01898), Motions to Dismiss

4 2) FirstBank Puerto Rico v Barclays Capital, Inc.

5 (Adversary Proceeding No. 10-04103), Barclays Capital, Inc.

6 Motion for Summary Judgment; FirstBank Puerto Rico Motion

7 for Summary Judgment

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25 Transcribed by: Sheila Orms

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 THE COURT: Be seated, please, good morning.

3 MS. MARCUS: Good morning, Your Honor, Jacqueline  
4 Marcus from Weil Gotshal and Manges on behalf of Lehman  
5 Brothers Holdings, Inc., and its affiliated debtors. We  
6 have a rather short agenda today, Your Honor.

7 The first matter on the agenda relates to the joint  
8 motion of Lehman Brothers Holdings, Inc., and the litigation  
9 subcommittee of the creditor's committee to extend the stay  
10 of avoidance actions.

11 As Your Honor is aware, we filed a motion to extend  
12 the stay on December 21st. At that time, we directed the  
13 claims agent to serve all of the avoidance action defendants  
14 in addition to the master service list. The objection  
15 deadline was January 9th, and no objections were filed by  
16 the deadline.

17 On Friday, January 11th, it was brought to my  
18 attention that some of the defendants in Adversary  
19 Proceeding 3547 which has 265 defendants were not served by  
20 the claims agent.

21 As set forth in the declaration that we filed  
22 yesterday, we immediately directed the claims agent to serve  
23 all of the defendants by overnight mail, while we pondered  
24 what to do about the situation.

25 Shortly after that, we decided that it would be

1 appropriate to adjourn today's hearing to the January 30th  
2 hearing date, which we've cleared with your clerk, provided  
3 that we could get a bridge order because the avoidance  
4 action stay and the service deadline currently expire. One  
5 is January 18th and the other is January 20th.

6 So, Your Honor, with that, we request that the  
7 hearing be adjourned until January 30th, and that the Court  
8 enter a bridge order. We did file a notice of adjournment  
9 of the hearing yesterday, and in the notice of adjournment,  
10 we indicated that the avoidance actions defendant in that  
11 particular adversary proceeding would have until January  
12 23rd to object to the relief that we're seeking.

13 THE COURT: That all sounds fine to me. It's  
14 adjourned till the 30th and you'll get a bridge order.

15 MS. MARCUS: Thank you, Your Honor.

16 The next matter on the agenda is a status  
17 conference relating to the proof of claim filed Canary  
18 Wharf, and my partner, Peter Isakoff will be handling that.

19 MR. ISAKOFF: Good morning.

20 THE COURT: Good morning. I think there's some  
21 attorneys wishing to come forward, so let's just wait a  
22 moment.

23 MR. ISAKOFF: May I proceed?

24 THE COURT: Please.

25 MR. ISAKOFF: We're here today because LBHI was the

1 guarantor of a lease of one of its subsidiaries LBL in  
2 London, quite a large building. The claimants Canary Wharf  
3 and affiliates were the landlord, and by stipulation that  
4 was so ordered by Your Honor on September 1, 2011, they have  
5 limited their claims to \$780 million.

6 We filed an objection to the claims last summer.  
7 They opposed them. We filed a reply last week. There are  
8 quite a number of disputed issues of English law. There are  
9 opinions of Queen's counsel submitted by both sides, and one  
10 of the issues we raise, if we were successful, would lead to  
11 the expungement of the guaranteed claim in its entirety.  
12 The others, to the extent that their claims survive would  
13 involve a number of factual issues, in addition to English  
14 law issues, and as to those, should the claim not be  
15 expunged in its entirety, we would like to have fact and  
16 expert discovery, both as to liability and damages.

17 We have started to try to talk about a procedure as  
18 to how to move forward here, whether to have oral argument  
19 on one or more issues before Your Honor, and then to the  
20 extent that the claims survive, proceed the discovery or  
21 exactly how to proceed. Those conversations begun this  
22 morning out in the hallway. I think it's fair to say are  
23 preliminary in nature. Have not thus far resulted in  
24 anything that we have to present to Your Honor as a way to  
25 proceed.

1 And I guess my suggestion would be that we perhaps  
2 set a date with some time for oral argument, and perhaps in  
3 advance of that, have enough discussions such that perhaps  
4 we can reach an agreement on precisely what issues to  
5 present at that time, or whether we should simply go into  
6 discovery, that kind of thing.

7 THE COURT: I'm not entirely clear on what you  
8 would be arguing on a preliminary basis, without the benefit  
9 of discovery and a full factual record.

10 MR. ISAKOFF: There is one issue as to which I  
11 believe the facts are effectively undisputed, and that is as  
12 part of the landlord's dealings with the tenant without our  
13 knowledge where they entered into what we've called a  
14 forfeiture letter, they reached an agreement with the  
15 tenant, that they would abandon their administrative claim  
16 for unpaid rent that had accrued to that point, in exchange  
17 for a payment of one and a half million pounds, which in the  
18 opinion of our Queen's counsel, resulted in the guarantee  
19 against -- claim against us being entirely discharged.

20 That is effectively a question of English law,  
21 which we could argue to Your Honor. And if we were  
22 successful, that would obviate the need for anything else in  
23 the case. But that's the one issue that really is  
24 susceptible to that type of treatment.

25 THE COURT: This is the first time that I can

1 recall that issues relating to LBL have been presented to  
2 me. To the extent that there was an argument that the  
3 administrative claim of LBL was being affected, was that a  
4 claim in this proceeding, or was that a claim in the UK  
5 proceeding?

6 MR. ISAKOFF: That was a claim in the UK  
7 proceeding, I believe, Your Honor, that the landlord would  
8 have an administrative claim. I believe it was -- I'm going  
9 on memory now, but about 30 million pounds for unpaid rent,  
10 it might have been dollars, I'm not sure which it was, and  
11 which was released as a priority claim, in exchange for a  
12 payment of one and a half million pounds. And obviously  
13 that increased LBHI's liability under the guarantee, because  
14 that administrative expense claim presumably could've been  
15 paid in full in that proceeding. And it's depending of our  
16 QC that that visciated the guarantee entirely, because it  
17 was done without our knowledge and consent.

18 THE COURT: Okay. Well, there are conflicting  
19 opinions of counsel, so it's going to be difficult to decide  
20 that without the benefit of context. And perhaps without  
21 the benefit of live witnesses. But I'll hear what the  
22 parties have to say about procedure.

23 MR. ISAKOFF: Okay.

24 MR. TULCHIN: Your Honor, good morning, Your Honor,  
25 David Tulchin from Sullivan and Cromwell for Canary Wharf.

1 In one respect I think we agree with counsel, and  
2 that is that there are issues of English law that are  
3 potentially determinative here, and to which no discovery is  
4 necessary. I have two suggestions about how to proceed,  
5 Your Honor, if I might. And we did try to -- we had a brief  
6 discussion about this just a few moments ago in the hallway,  
7 but were not able to reach any agreement at least thus far.

8 First, Your Honor, I do think it would make sense,  
9 and here's where I think we agree, for the Court to resolve  
10 English law questions at the outset. Because potentially,  
11 they are determinative. I think it would be useful to the  
12 Court to do so after you've heard from the two English  
13 lawyers, the two Queen's counsel. And I suggest that we  
14 have a brief evidentiary hearing. My guess is that it would  
15 take a day and a half for the two lawyers to testify. I  
16 think it would be helpful for the Court in understanding the  
17 contract and the issues of English law that have been  
18 presented.

19 For example, Mr. Isakoff referred to his QC, his  
20 opinion goes on for 43 pages. It's 109 paragraphs, not all  
21 of that, by any means, I think will be all that relevant to  
22 the type of hearing that I'm proposing. But there are some,  
23 let's say, some little nooks and crannies of English law.  
24 Our QC, whose name is Laurence Rabinowitz, of course, has  
25 views that are quite different than Mr. Millett (ph).

1           So before we have discovery, I think it would be  
2   helpful to have, assuming the Court has the time, of course,  
3   a brief evidentiary hearing.

4           And secondly, Your Honor, and this is I think more  
5   in the way of a detail, but objections to the claim were  
6   filed last August without the submission of any opinion from  
7   an English barrister. In fact, there was only a very scant  
8   mention of English law in the papers that were filed on the  
9   objection.

10          We responded in October with our papers, including  
11   the opinion of Mr. Rabinowitz. And it was only in reply  
12   that they came forward with their Mr. Millett, who has  
13   addressed lots of questions of English law in reply. And I  
14   wonder if we couldn't get leave from the Court to submit a  
15   brief surreply since our QC, of course, did not have the  
16   opportunity to address the issues of English law that are  
17   now being stated to be determinative of at least the  
18   preliminary stage of our claim.

19          And I would propose to submit a surreply, Your  
20   Honor, at the Court's convenience, perhaps in three weeks if  
21   that makes sense.

22          THE COURT: I have insufficient information at this  
23   point concerning the nature of the dispute between two  
24   obviously eminent English barristers, concerning a point of  
25   English law that may be familiar to justices of the high

1 court, but that are to me, matters of foreign law.

2 It is unclear to me from what you've told me, and  
3 frankly from what little I've read of this in preparing for  
4 today's status conference, whether the disagreements  
5 concerning the application of English law to this dispute  
6 are disagreements based upon unsettled law, or good faith  
7 disagreements as to the application of black letter law to  
8 the leasing question, and to the damages related to the  
9 claims being asserted.

10 I looked generally at the papers that you filed,  
11 and believe this to be a complex matter unless it can be  
12 disposed of as a threshold question of law, in which you're  
13 entitled or not entitled to the damages you seek.

14 It occurs to me that rather than simply stating  
15 yes, go ahead and file a surreply, that it would be sensible  
16 for the parties to continue the discussions that started  
17 this morning in the hallway. And for you to continue to  
18 meet and confer and to develop a well considered set of  
19 prehearing procedures relating to the evidentiary hearing  
20 that you propose.

21 It seems to me that some form of evidentiary  
22 hearing would be desirable, certainly from my perspective,  
23 since to read submissions is never quite as compelling, as  
24 hearing someone with a particularly well-turned English  
25 accent speak to me from the witness stand.



1           So my suggestion is that you should have an  
2           opportunity to respond, but I believe that that opportunity  
3           should be part of a broader understanding that the parties  
4           can reduce to writing, and I can so order relating to  
5           prehearing procedures. I'll certainly make time for such a  
6           hearing.

7           I would also suggest that during the course of  
8           developing this prehearing set of procedures, that the  
9           parties give some thought to submitting this issue to  
10          arbitration or mediation. Arbitration in London before  
11          perhaps a retired justice of the high court, or mediation  
12          involving someone who is, by disposition and background, an  
13          expert in matters of this sort might be useful for you to  
14          consider.

15          Additionally, it seems to me that the matters that  
16          are to be presented here are susceptible potentially to  
17          mediation, and that some thought be given to that. I'm not  
18          directing it, I'm not even recommending it. I'm just saying  
19          that some thought might be given to whether that makes sense  
20          under these circumstances.

21          MR. TULCHIN: Of course, Your Honor, happy to  
22          consider that. I think these are very good suggestions.

23          THE COURT: And in developing a prehearing  
24          stipulation, my suggestion is that you contact my chambers,  
25          so that you can include several hearing dates. If you think

1 it's a two-day hearing, let's have two days at a point in  
2 time where you would reasonably anticipate will be suitable  
3 for the occasion.

4 Mr. Isakoff?

5 MR. ISAKOFF: Yes, Your Honor, if I might just for  
6 one moment. This is a suggestion I heard for the first time  
7 this morning in the hall, to have a hearing where the two  
8 QCs testify. And it seems to me that before you were to  
9 bring them over and to try to deal with the whole list of  
10 issues that they've given opinions on, there are a number of  
11 those as to which we would want to have a developed factual  
12 record. Not just on damages, but on issues going to  
13 liability under various theories.

14 And it seems to us that discovery should precede  
15 the kind of effort to bring the QCs over and have Your Honor  
16 take up time with a hearing for one and a half to two days.

17 THE COURT: I hear what you're saying, and I'm not  
18 ready to say that you're right, but you might be. And my  
19 thought on this is that, that's a subject to be considered  
20 when you meet and confer to discuss procedures.

21 Additionally, it seems to me that many of the  
22 factual matters here are discernible, identifiable, and in  
23 all likelihood susceptible to a stipulation of facts, rather  
24 than the burdens of depositions or formal discovery. And my  
25 suggestion is that since the documents that relate to this,

1 no doubt, have already been identified, and that the  
2 individuals who know something about those, no doubt, are  
3 known to the parties. That some consideration be given to  
4 developing a list of pertinent facts that I can then take  
5 into consideration at the time of argument, with regard to  
6 how those facts should be interpreted.

7 MR. ISAKOFF: Your Honor, I -- in saying anything,  
8 I am, this morning, I fully understand that Your Honor is in  
9 no position to rule on any of these things. I just did not  
10 want to sit down and suggest that we were in agreement with  
11 the things that were being said here.

12 In terms of developing a factual stipulation, in  
13 fact, there are many things that we do not know that are  
14 pertinent here. And it very well may be we can come in with  
15 a list of stipulated facts, after we've had a chance to find  
16 out what's in the -- in our adversary's files.

17 MR. TULCHIN: Your Honor, if I may. I agree with  
18 the Court that perhaps this is the sort of thing that we can  
19 sit down and talk about. I'm hopeful we can come to some  
20 resolution about it.

21 There -- it may be that there are some facts, I'm  
22 quite sure there are some factual issues that go only to the  
23 question of damages. And those, for example, it seems to  
24 me, should be deferred until after an adjudication of these  
25 English law questions.

1           Those would be -- those factual issues potentially  
2           could be the subject of a great deal of discovery I think.  
3           But there may be fact issues on liability issues, and  
4           liability questions, that we can agree, should be the  
5           subject of some limited discovery. I'm happy to consider  
6           that. And I think maybe Mr. Isakoff and I should --

7           MR. ISAKOFF: We'll talk.

8           MR. TULCHIN: -- meet about this and spend some  
9           time going through the Court's suggestions.

10          THE COURT: We all agree, you should talk.

11          MR. ISAKOFF: Thank you, Your Honor.

12          MR. TULCHIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

13          THE COURT: And my suggestion is just so we can  
14          keep a watch on this, that this be an agenda item for the  
15          February omnibus hearing calendar only if you are unable to  
16          reach an understanding concerning procedures.

17                 So that's basically a 30-day window to reach an  
18          understanding. And if you can't, to come in and explain  
19          what the problems are.

20          MR. TULCHIN: Very good, Your Honor.

21          THE COURT: Okay.

22          MR. TULCHIN: Thank you, sir.

23          THE COURT: Thank you.

24          MR. ISAKOFF: Your Honor, I've been handed the  
25          agenda. I'm told that the next one is a hearing to consider

1 objections to purported claims, transfers to Stichting The  
2 Iamex Value Foundation as to which Weil is not involved.

3 THE COURT: Okay.

4 MS. DEMARCO: Good morning, Jennifer DeMarco from  
5 Clifford Chance for the Stichting Iamex Value Foundation.

6 This was originally scheduled as a hearing to  
7 consider the claims transfers for six claims transfers that  
8 were objected to. My records now reflect that two of the  
9 parties have withdrawn their objections to the claim  
10 transfers, and the four other claims transfers have been --  
11 either the transfer has been withdrawn, or the claim has  
12 been transferred back to the claimant.

13 THE COURT: What's going on here? I don't  
14 understand it.

15 MS. DEMARCO: Yeah, that's why we're here to tell  
16 you the story.

17 Iamex is a Dutch foundation, it's regulated by the  
18 Dutch Central Bank. It works as -- in the asset management  
19 field, is a group of funds. It also works in transferring  
20 distressed assets. Through its clients, it learned that  
21 there are fact forms and tax forms that were required to be  
22 filed by October 14th, I believe. I'm sorry, or the  
23 claimants would lose their claims, and lose their rights to  
24 distributions.

25 It was working with Epiq and Epiq advised it, there

1 were very many individual holders of claims in Amsterdam --  
2 I'm sorry, in The Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland that  
3 didn't file the forms. It came to Iamex's attention that  
4 their asset managers were actually telling them that the  
5 forms were not necessary.

6 Iamex reached out to each of the claimants that it  
7 could to try to get them to file their claims. They didn't  
8 have enough time to do it. So working with Epiq, who  
9 supplied it with a list of claimants who did not file the  
10 proper tax and OFAC (ph) forms. And Iamex took the action  
11 under Dutch law, and I'm going to butcher the Dutch law  
12 here. It's called Negation Justio or Zarkquernemen (ph) and  
13 it's basically the ability of a party to go in and take  
14 control of another party's assets for its benefit to protect  
15 it.

16 So Iamex transferred these claims to a custodial  
17 account that it had. Got in touch with all of the claimants  
18 saying, hey, you need to file your tax forms. You need to  
19 do your OFAC forms, and it could have the claims transferred  
20 back to them. Iamex under its Dutch regulatory provisions  
21 is not capable of receiving distributions for these claims,  
22 or keeping them. They have to be tagged to customers.

23 So it did this action to preserve what were the  
24 distributive rights of individual creditors in these three  
25 countries. It has reached out to -- and the total that it

1 did under this Dutch principle was, I think, 117 claim  
2 transfers. It has reached out to each of the transferees  
3 that it could. As of today, 51 of the transferees are --  
4 have blessed the transfers, and are filing their own forms,  
5 are getting their information together, to preserve their  
6 distribution rights.

7 They are having difficulty getting feedback from 50  
8 -- I think it was the other 53, the 117 included the six  
9 parties that were here today.

10 So they are getting in touch with all of the  
11 claimants that are the subject to the transfers. They will  
12 either have powers of attorneys with respect to the  
13 transfers, which aren't necessary under the Dutch law. But  
14 they'd like to do it for the reference anyway, but it's not  
15 necessary.

16 All that's necessary under Dutch law is that the  
17 parties don't object to the action that was taken on their  
18 behalf. It's Iamex's intention that as the parties get  
19 their forms filled out, so that they have their  
20 distributions protected, the claims will go back to the  
21 claimants. And to the extent that either a claimant doesn't  
22 want this service, the claim will be transferred back to it.  
23 And it won't have its tax and OFAC forms filed, and that's  
24 just where they were as of October 14th.

25 But to the extent -- and to the extent that they

1 don't get responses from any claimants, their intent is to  
2 transfer the claims back to them in any event, far before  
3 there's the next distribution because, as I said, as a  
4 matter of their Dutch regulatory authority, they're not  
5 permitted to take the distributions without an identifying  
6 customer account.

7 The next question you're going to ask is why.

8 THE COURT: Well --

9 MS. DEMARCO: Because I have to say it was the  
10 question I asked.

11 THE COURT: I'm somewhat perplexed by all this, in  
12 that it seems as if these are not transfers for value, as  
13 much as they're transfers for purposes of protecting real  
14 parties in interest into a kind of regulatory purgatory. In  
15 which the claims are held not for distribution purposes, but  
16 for regulatory compliance purposes, if I'm understanding  
17 what you said. Do I understand it correctly?

18 MS. DEMARCO: I think I could add the for value  
19 piece would be that Iamex -- it's more of a non-monetary  
20 value in terms of reputation and marketing.

21 THE COURT: Why am I concerned with this? What --  
22 why are we here? What's the relief, if any, that would  
23 ultimately be obtained as to any of these claims? Because  
24 it seems to me that once there's compliance, the claim goes  
25 back to the original holder. And if there isn't compliance,



1 this entity that I don't fully understand, I-a-m-e-x, isn't  
2 in a position to receive distributions.

3 So what does it do to the extent that there is a  
4 failure to comply?

5 MS. DEMARCO: To the extent that there's a failure  
6 to comply from the claim holders, or the original claim  
7 holders wish not to have Iamex services, then the claims  
8 will be transferred back to the claim holders.

9 THE COURT: So who was it that agreed in the first  
10 instance to transfer a claim to Iamex or did it get  
11 transferred by operation of law?

12 MS. DEMARCO: Iamex made the transfer as an  
13 independent party under this Dutch principle of Negotiarium  
14 Justile (ph) which gives a third party the ability to take  
15 custody and control of assets to protect those assets.

16 THE COURT: And what empowers this action, and who  
17 decides that the doctrine has been properly invoked in the  
18 first instance?

19 MS. DEMARCO: I'm not sure I can answer the second  
20 part here today, and I'm not a Dutch lawyer, so I can only  
21 give you my understanding of what the Dutch law is. Is that  
22 in terms of taking the action, the third party is the person  
23 who decides to take the action, but has to take the action  
24 for the benefit, and make a reasoned determination.

25 I would assume that the party whose property was

1 affected by the action, always has the ability to challenge  
2 the action as not being in its benefit, or not properly  
3 authorized.

4 Here, we have six parties who took -- who  
5 challenged that action, but none of the other parties have  
6 challenged the action that was taken on their behalf. And  
7 the six parties who challenged the action, of those parties,  
8 it turns out that Epiq when it provided all of this  
9 information to Iamex didn't have the up to date information.  
10 So for a few of those six, they actually had filled out  
11 their forms, and their information was up to date, and Iamex  
12 withdrew its claim transfer.

13 And for another one, I think it's Carolina  
14 Bernhard, the claims transfer was withdrawn, her objection  
15 was withdrawn, and she has filed all of her necessary tax  
16 and OFAC forms.

17 THE COURT: All right. I still have this lingering  
18 uncertainty as to why we're here. What, if any, relief  
19 would be afforded by the Court in connection with this Dutch  
20 procedure? It seems to me that it's either for the benefit  
21 of the original holder, or the original holder objects and  
22 gets it back and is not in compliance, but what if anything,  
23 is the Court supposed to do other than be told about it?

24 MS. DEMARCO: I don't believe we're asking the  
25 Court to do anything with respect to it. I believe that

1 this matter was put on because there were pending  
2 objections. They were resolved, which mooted any relief  
3 before the Court. But my understanding was that because of  
4 the situation, and the interesting facts surrounding it,  
5 that we were having a status conference to explain the  
6 situation.

7 THE COURT: Okay. And let me just ask one more  
8 thing, and then I'll hear from debtor's counsel on this.

9 In the event that an objection to the transfer is  
10 not resolved consensually, my understanding is that Iamex  
11 will simply return the appropriated claim back to the  
12 original holder in any event; is that correct?

13 MS. DEMARCO: That's correct.

14 THE COURT: Okay. So regardless of the disposition  
15 of the objection, there's never anything for the Court to do  
16 because there will never be an objection to rule on.

17 MS. DEMARCO: That's correct.

18 THE COURT: Okay. It's all (indiscernible)  
19 bizarre.

20 MS. DEMARCO: That was my --

21 THE COURT: At least from my perspective it is.

22 MR. FAIL: Your Honor, Garrett --

23 THE COURT: Mr. Fail?

24 MR. FAIL: Thank you. Your Honor, Garrett Fail,  
25 Weil Gotshal for Lehman Brothers Holdings, Inc. Just to

1 follow-up on that. The reason that this was scheduled as a  
2 status conference was because the debtors and the claim  
3 agent noticed the number of claims transfers and the numbers  
4 of objections that were filed to the transfers of claims,  
5 followed by the withdrawals. And without knowing the facts  
6 behind it, wanted to bring it to the attention of the Court.  
7 And we notified the Office of the U.S. Trustee, of what we  
8 perceived to be an irregularity in the trading of claims  
9 without permission of claim holders.

10 I have no reason to dispute or -- you know, we have  
11 no facts or knowledge to dispute anything Ms. DeMarco has  
12 said today. And there was nothing before Your Honor to rule  
13 on. This was a status conference to clear the air I think.  
14 And one of the claimants is actually here, one of the  
15 claimants, the transferor is here, and he may wish to --

16 THE COURT: Do you have anything to say, sir?

17 MR. STONE: Yes, Your Honor. I'm Ralph Stone, I  
18 represent Carolina Bernhard. She withdrew her objection  
19 after Iamex withdrew its transfer. So I'm really here as a  
20 friend of the court.

21 I find the whole thing not just bizarre but  
22 extremely suspicious. I have no reason to question the  
23 representations about Dutch law and the rest, but Carolina  
24 Bernhard has not been wandering around Germany, no one  
25 reached out to her. The first notice that she received of a

1 transfer of her claim was a notice of a hearing to object,  
2 or of an opportunity to reject to the transfer, which  
3 attached among other things, these transfer documents that  
4 are assigned by Iamex, as both transferor and transferee,  
5 which just smacks of exceedingly strange.

6 I was simply retained by German counsel to Ms.  
7 Bernhard to serve as a go between so that they could file  
8 their objection. But anybody who hears of this does a  
9 little bit of Googling and looks at the docket, and sees  
10 that Iamex has transferred in excess of a hundred claims,  
11 and I'm told it's done out of the goodness of their hearts,  
12 which I find rather hard to believe.

13 And so the reality is that these transfers are, if  
14 you look through the list of them, they all involve largely  
15 smaller claimants, people with a hundred thousand or tens of  
16 thousands in claims, are individuals or small business  
17 pension funds who were sold these late Lehman notes, which  
18 were peddled to widows and orphans throughout Europe just  
19 before collapse of the firm.

20 And these are the sorts of people for whom English  
21 is not their first language. They received these -- a  
22 notice from the Court, which is Mr. Bernhard's instance, was  
23 the first time she ever even got word that her claim had  
24 been transferred.

25 It sounds to me like either a fraudulent transfer

1 process has been set up in a place that's basically outside  
2 the jurisdiction of this Court, or somebody has stumbled on  
3 a fantastic business plan.

4 THE COURT: Well, after that interjection, I  
5 suspect counsel will want to respond to, to establish the  
6 legitimacy of her client.

7 MS. DEMARCO: I certainly would, and I find it  
8 somewhat surprising since his client withdrew her objection.  
9 So I'm not sure the purpose of the speech since they  
10 specifically --

11 THE COURT: I think he wishes to point out that the  
12 circumstances to an outside observe seems suspicious.

13 MS. DEMARCO: I can understand that they appear how  
14 they appear. Iamex actually did mass mailings right after  
15 it did this transfer. It tried to get in touch with people  
16 beforehand, but Epiq gave them the list so close to the  
17 October 14 deadline that it was impossible to get in touch  
18 with everyone and get their forms filed.

19 So this was what was viewed as, at the time, and I  
20 probably viewed in retrospect, differently as an inexpensive  
21 marketing effort to show customers in their home  
22 jurisdiction that they take better care of their customers  
23 than the asset managers, who had advised all of these  
24 parties not to file these forms.

25 I think if they had seen at the time, that they

1 would then have to hire someone to come to the U.S. and  
2 defend the position, they probably wouldn't have spent the  
3 resources doing it. It's less of an inexpensive marketing  
4 issue to do it then. They did it free of charge.

5 THE COURT: Let me ask a very basic question. Is  
6 there no fee associated with the transfer of the claim and  
7 the transfer back? Is it a completely free of charge  
8 appropriation and then transferred back?

9 MS. DEMARCO: Yes, it is. Iamex Fund itself, and  
10 this fund is in the business of a platform of purchasing and  
11 selling distressed assets. So to the extent any of the  
12 claim holders want to pool their assets and sell them, which  
13 is their choice, there would be a commission associated with  
14 that. However, that's not a requirement.

15 So this was really probably an ill conceived  
16 marketing effort.

17 THE COURT: I don't understand that  
18 characterization. What do you mean by an ill conceived  
19 marketing effort?

20 MS. DEMARCO: I mean that it was a marketing effort  
21 that was -- that it was an action that was taken under Dutch  
22 law, that was taken, as I'm advised, appropriately under  
23 Dutch law with respect to the assets. There's a cost  
24 involved in doing all of this, and Iamex has now been  
25 subject to the costs involved in it, including hiring

1 counsel and reimbursing certain parties who have had  
2 counsel, because they believed that it should be absolutely  
3 neutral to the claimants that they took this action.

4 So in circumstances where there was a counsel who  
5 objected, they reimbursed the counsel.

6 THE COURT: Okay. I -- the more I hear about this,  
7 the more confused I become, and at least in this respect.  
8 Did your client take this action under color of applicable  
9 Dutch law? Because it is in the business of trying to  
10 acquire claims and thereby generate commissions from the  
11 sale of those claims? Or did it do this because it is a  
12 quasi fiduciary that was attempting to provide a benefit to  
13 (indiscernible) finding claim holders who would not be able  
14 under applicable law to receive distributions  
15 (indiscernible) compliance with the various local  
16 requirements of law?

17 MS. DEMARCO: It's more the latter, Your Honor.  
18 The Iamex Fund is part a family of funds which are asset  
19 managers. And as asset managers, they owe duties to their  
20 customers. They understood that there were these individual  
21 parties, many of whom were elderly, many of whom are on  
22 pensions that were being told they did not have to file  
23 these forms to receive distributions. And they believed  
24 that they should provide a vehicle for which these pension  
25 holders could.



1 We're not talking about large sums of money here  
2 that anybody would make any money through sales or the like.  
3 I think the aggregate of the six parties who objected was a  
4 claim of 1,072,000, the aggregate. And in terms of the  
5 others, I think we're talking -- I think that the aggregate  
6 of the remaining is \$10 million in face amount of claims.

7 We're not talking -- and many of the holders are  
8 14,000, 20,000, 6,000, we're not talking about any kind of a  
9 commission that someone would take all of this action to do.  
10 This was really about protecting individual claimants in  
11 other countries who were being told that they didn't have to  
12 file these forms. And Iamex wanted to demonstrate that it  
13 actually took care of its clients.

14 THE COURT: Now, were these individuals clients, or  
15 were they strangers?

16 MS. DEMARCO: They were strangers.

17 THE COURT: And they took this action under color  
18 of law because they were advised by Dutch counsel that they  
19 had the ability to act on behalf of parties who were not  
20 customers, and with whom they had no relationship and no  
21 duty to act, correct?

22 MS. DEMARCO: Correct.

23 THE COURT: That's pretty peculiar, but thanks for  
24 the report.

25 MS. DEMARCO: If it would make anyone feel more

1 comfortable, I'm happy to touch base on the status of the  
2 remaining claims over the next month, so that everyone can  
3 be assured that this isn't some sort of a scheme to --

4 THE COURT: I don't know that I need a further  
5 status report, as long as I have a representation from  
6 counsel that these claims will, in all respects, be returned  
7 without cost to the original claim holders, and that this  
8 is, in effect, an entity acting as a volunteer for the  
9 benefit of third parties, thereby assuming a responsibility  
10 by virtue of volunteering to those third parties, and will,  
11 in all respects, act in the benefit of those third parties  
12 including returning the claims to those parties without  
13 compliance with local regulatory authority or with it.  
14 Whatever the claimant wishes. As long as the claimant's  
15 wishes are paramount, I don't need to hear about it. But if  
16 any party complains, I want more than just a status report,  
17 I'll want an explanation in great detail, and I'll probably  
18 want a representative of your client to explain.

19 MS. DEMARCO: I understand.

20 THE COURT: Okay.

21 MR. FAIL: Thank you, Your Honor, Garrett Fail for  
22 Weil Gotshal again. The next item on the agenda is a motion  
23 of Traxis Fund LP, and Traxis Emerging Market Opportunities  
24 LP to compel the debtors to reissue distribution checks for  
25 allowed claims. Counsel for Traxis is here, and I propose

1 that they go first.

2 THE COURT: Okay.

3 MR. ASHMEAD: Good morning, Your Honor, John

4 Ashmead of Seward & Kissell on behalf of the Traxis Funds.

5 Your Honor, I'm not exactly sure how you'd like to  
6 proceed. I will say that we have submitted affidavits. The  
7 plan administrator has submitted an affidavit. We are happy  
8 to proceed with oral argument. We don't know that there's a  
9 need for an evidentiary hearing, unless Your Honor would  
10 like to have live witnesses here, although we don't think  
11 that the matters covering the affidavit are of the type that  
12 should require that, given that it's not about promises, or  
13 understandings, or calculations, or damages. It's simply  
14 about what someone's mail procedures were. And we're happy  
15 to request our affidavits, and actually just go straight  
16 forward to oral argument.

17 But before we go further, I'll leave that to Your  
18 Honor and debtor's counsel.

19 THE COURT: Well, you're going to have to explain  
20 what you've just said because this was listed on the agenda  
21 as going forward solely as a status conference.

22 MR. ASHMEAD: Uh-huh.

23 THE COURT: Rather than on the --

24 MR. ASHMEAD: Uh-huh.

25 THE COURT: -- merits. You're now saying you're

1 prepared to go forward on the merits. I need to understand  
2 what's going on.

3 MR. ASHMEAD: Your Honor, we are prepared to go  
4 forward on the merits. There may have a miscommunication,  
5 or lack of communication with Mr. Fail, but we were  
6 surprised when we saw the agenda last night after hours when  
7 I saw it, and it was listed as a status conference. But  
8 we're prepared to go, or if we need to put this out in the  
9 near term, we hope would be the near term, we're prepared to  
10 argue then or now.

11 THE COURT: Let me hear from the debtor on this.

12 MR. FAIL: Your Honor, this is an unfortunate  
13 situation, and the plan administrator is sympathetic to  
14 Traxis' situation.

15 This was listed as a status conference, because I  
16 understood that we wouldn't be putting on witnesses in  
17 support of the affidavits or cross-examining each other's  
18 witnesses, to the extent that Traxis wants to proceed with  
19 oral arguments, we're happy to respond, and the plan  
20 administrator seeks Your Honor's direction in terms of how  
21 to proceed, perhaps after the argument.

22 THE COURT: Well, this sort of leads me to make a  
23 general observation about the agenda. As I think everyone  
24 has come to recognize, given the volume of matters that have  
25 arisen over the years in the Lehman case, the Court places

1 considerable reliance on the agenda process for our own  
2 preparation for hearings.

3 And when a matter is listed as going forward solely  
4 as a status conference, that is a signal that while I will  
5 pay attention to the matter, I will not necessarily delve  
6 into it with the same depth and level of preparation as a  
7 matter which is going forward on the merits.

8 I noted for example, that the next agenda item  
9 involving the final fee application of Epiq Bankruptcy  
10 Solutions showed up as an agenda item last evening after  
11 9:30. And while it turns out to be not a controversial  
12 matter, I nonetheless spent some time this morning taking a  
13 look at that, and I would not otherwise have paid attention  
14 to it.

15 So to the extent that there is some issues relating  
16 to the monthly agenda, I'll simply make the general comment  
17 that, I think maybe we need to pay closer attention to the  
18 timing of both adding and withdrawing items from the agenda.  
19 And also making sure that there's symmetry between the plan  
20 administrator and parties in interest, as to whether matters  
21 are going forward as a status conference, and what it means  
22 for a matter to go forward as a status conference, or  
23 whether they're going forward on the merits.

24 Now, that having been said, I know generally what  
25 this motion is about, and I know generally what the issues

1 are. To the extent that it is important that this proceed  
2 today, I can listen to argument on the merits. But I think  
3 it might be better, assuming parties are not prejudiced by  
4 delay, if this were to be adjourned to the next omnibus  
5 hearing, when I'll have more of an opportunity to pay  
6 attention to the various affidavits that have been  
7 submitted.

8 Because while I reviewed the papers, I did not  
9 review the evidentiary submissions.

10 MR. FAIL: Thank you, Your Honor. I apologize to  
11 the Court and to Traxis and its counsel for the oversight  
12 and for the misunderstanding. There would be no prejudice  
13 to Traxis in terms of receiving a distribution in the third  
14 distribution should Your Honor be so inclined to rule in its  
15 favor, and if this were to go forward, either of the  
16 February omnibus hearings, or I think the January 30th  
17 claims hearing is -- looks like it's a full calendar but I  
18 defer to counsel for Traxis.

19 MR. ASHMEAD: I'm sorry. Since we're just having a  
20 bit of discussion, I'll speak from this mic, Your Honor.

21 Look, I take Your Honor's comments and I want Your  
22 Honor to be in the best position to rule on this, and to  
23 make it as most efficient as possible, and not to abrupt or  
24 change your calendar. It's unfortunate that happened. I  
25 don't think there was mal intent, maybe a lack of

1 communication, misunderstanding, and I accept Mr. Fail's  
2 statements.

3 So on that, it is my client that spent a fortune to  
4 defend what ultimately, you know, we're eating very much  
5 into that amount that's at stake. So we would like to get  
6 this resolved as soon as possible. We think we have a slam  
7 dunk case. I would like --

8 MR. FAIL: If Your Honor is prepared to entertain  
9 the argument, we're happy to respond today.

10 THE COURT: Well, as I said, you can refer to the  
11 affidavits in support of your position, but I haven't  
12 reviewed those in advance. I do know what the issues are.

13 MR. ASHMEAD: Uh-huh.

14 THE COURT: And if you want to argue them today,  
15 that's fine, but I'm probably going to be in a position to  
16 rule today anyway, because I will need to take some time to  
17 review the affidavits.

18 My suggestion is that this be adjourned to either  
19 the January 30th claims hearing, because this is claims  
20 related, or to the next omnibus hearing.

21 MR. ASHMEAD: Your Honor, that's what I was -- my  
22 little speech, but that's what I was going to suggest, just  
23 that we keep it on a tighter leash, and I'm just scrolling  
24 through my calendar, and let me put on my peepers here. We  
25 would like to go forward, and we're going to take Your

1 Honor's recommendation, and we understand the position Your  
2 Honor is in. And we would ask that it go forward on January  
3 30th.

4 THE COURT: Fine. Even though I think we have a  
5 full calendar, this will simply be one more item on that  
6 full calendar.

7 MR. ASHMEAD: Your Honor, is there a time? Is that  
8 a 10 a.m. standard calendar?

9 THE COURT: Yes.

10 MR. ASHMEAD: Okay.

11 MR. FAIL: Thank you, Your Honor.

12 MR. ASHMEAD: Thank you, Your Honor.

13 MR. FAIL: The next item on the agenda is Epiq's  
14 final fee application. James Sullivan from Epiq is here in  
15 the courtroom today, Your Honor. There were no objections  
16 and we contemplated and were in discussions with Epiq with  
17 respect to whether or not to file a certificate of no  
18 objection, that might account for the late addition. We  
19 realize that there were no certificates of no objections  
20 filed for other fee applications. So we wanted to give the  
21 opportunity to go forward with the hearing.

22 THE COURT: It's an uncontested application by  
23 Epiq. I've taken a look at it. It seems fine to me, and  
24 it's approved.

25 MR. FAIL: Thank you, Your Honor. With your



1 permission, we'll submit an order with respect to the Epiq  
2 matter to chambers following the hearing.

3 THE COURT: Okay. And --

4 MR. FAIL: And we'll submit the bridge order  
5 following directly to the hearing to your clerks.

6 THE COURT: Fine. I think that concludes the  
7 morning calendar, and we'll resume at 2 o'clock this  
8 afternoon, and I'll see you later.

9 MR. FAIL: Thank you.

10 THE COURT: Thank you.

11 MS. MARCUS: Thank you, Your Honor.

12 (Recessed at 10:55 a.m.; reconvened at 2:03 p.m.)

13 THE COURT: Be seated, please, good afternoon.

14 MR. MARGOLIN: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Jeffrey  
15 Margolin for the SIPA Trustee.

16 Your Honor, the first matter on the agenda for this  
17 afternoon is the trustee's and Bank of America's respective  
18 motions to dismiss the Walton adversary proceeding.

19 For background, Your Honor, back on December 11th,  
20 the trustee moved to dismiss the complaint as against LBI as  
21 the complaint failed to plead the elements of a quiet title  
22 action under Georgia law against LBI, and insufficient  
23 service of process.

24 Motion to dismiss was served on Mr. Walton, counsel  
25 for the plaintiffs, by the trustee's noticing agent via

1 email and overnight delivery. At the December 12th pretrial  
2 conference, Your Honor may recall that you instructed the  
3 trustee's counsel to take further measures, to advise Mr.  
4 Walton of the outstanding motion to dismiss.

5 A certified letter and copy of the motion to  
6 dismiss was sent to Mr. Walton promptly thereafter, and he  
7 was emailed several times regarding the motion to dismiss,  
8 the response deadline, and today's hearing as well.

9 My colleague, Betsy Pierce, who's in the courtroom  
10 today spoke to Mr. Walton on December 20th, at which time  
11 Mr. Walton again indicated that the plaintiffs would be  
12 dismissing the complaint as to LBI. We sent Mr. Walton the  
13 email and draft stipulation of dismissal. And again, after  
14 repeated efforts, have not received any response.

15 THE COURT: I'd like to hear a rendition of the  
16 conversation that actually took place with Mr. Walton. It's  
17 still hearsay, but I'd like it not to be double hearsay.

18 MS. PIERCE: Good afternoon, Your Honor, Betsy  
19 Pierce.

20 Mr. Walton called my line directly inadvertently  
21 thinking he was calling another counsel on another matter,  
22 and when I refreshed his memory as to our relationship, and  
23 then prompted him about the previous discussions we've had,  
24 where he's indicated that he would be willing to dismiss  
25 LBI, he then seemed to recall who I was, the matter, and

1 said that he would still be willing to do that, and that he  
2 would call me the next day.

3 And following up to that phone call, we provided  
4 the stipulation of dismissal to Mr. Walton. He never called  
5 me back and never responded further.

6 THE COURT: But he stated to you unequivocally, I  
7 have no intention of pursuing LBI in the bankruptcy court  
8 and you have my consent to dropping LBI as a party, is that  
9 more or less what he said?

10 MS. PIERCE: He definitely did not use as many  
11 words, but he was -- he recalled the previous discussions  
12 we'd had about dismissing LBI, and he agreed that he would  
13 be willing to dismiss us from the suite.

14 THE COURT: Can you, to the best of your  
15 recollection, tell me the words he actually used.

16 MS. PIERCE: The conversation was a little  
17 convoluted, because he was not initially recalling who I was  
18 in the matter.

19 THE COURT: He called you by mistake.

20 MS. PIERCE: Yes, correct. But when I reminded him  
21 that we'd spoken on previous occasions, specifically right  
22 before the Thanksgiving holiday, and he had provided us with  
23 documentation regarding -- further documentation in the  
24 case, saying that he would be willing to release us. When I  
25 reminded him about this, he said, oh, yes, yes, that's

1 right, I think we could probably go ahead with that, I'll  
2 call you tomorrow and we'll discuss further.

3 THE COURT: Was there any condition imposed, for  
4 example, earlier papers filed by the trustee indicated a  
5 willingness to execute documentation releasing all claims to  
6 the property in Georgia?

7 MS. PIERCE: That was the understanding that I had  
8 of his expectation, of Mr. Walton's expectation.

9 THE COURT: And is it your understanding that his  
10 willingness to discontinue the litigation as to LBI was or  
11 was not conditioned on the trustee issuing some kind of  
12 release of all claims with respect to the real estate?

13 MS. PIERCE: It's my understanding that that was  
14 his understanding, based on the offer that we had initially  
15 made in our first interactions with Mr. Walton, that we  
16 would be willing to do that.

17 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

18 MS. PIERCE: Thank you, Your Honor.

19 MR. MARGOLIN: And, Your Honor, the draft  
20 stipulation of dismissal did include that release, which we  
21 sent to him, and never heard back from him regarding that.

22 As further described in the statement in further  
23 support of the trustee's motion, as of this date, Your  
24 Honor, the plaintiff have -- the plaintiffs have not filed  
25 or served any pleading whatsoever regarding the motion to

1 dismiss, requesting an extension of the response deadline,  
2 or requesting an adjournment of today's hearing.

3 It appears to us that neither Mr. Walton nor his  
4 clients are in the courtroom or on the telephone.

5 THE COURT: Let's confirm that. Is there anyone in  
6 the courtroom, or is there anyone on the telephone  
7 representing the Walton plaintiffs?

8 (No response)

9 THE COURT: There's no response. So I conclude  
10 that they are not here either in person or by telephone.

11 MR. MARGOLIN: Thank you, Your Honor. Therefore,  
12 for the reasons described today, and further set forth in  
13 the motion and the trustee's supporting papers, we  
14 respectfully request that the Court enter an order  
15 dismissing the complaint in its entirety against LBI with  
16 prejudice.

17 THE COURT: The complaint is dismissed as to LBI.  
18 And to the extent that Mr. Walton's agreement not to press  
19 claims as to LBI was conditioned on there being a release by  
20 the trustee, I'm going to request that such a release be  
21 granted if it is requested. But the dismissal is in no way  
22 conditioned upon that.

23 MR. MARGOLIN: Thank you, Your Honor. We, of  
24 course, would pursue that. If it's all right with Your  
25 Honor, we'll submit a proposed order to chambers.

1 THE COURT: Yes, that's fine. Now, we also have  
2 other parties.

3 MR. MARGOLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

4 MR. SCHELL: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Thomas  
5 Schell representing Bank of America, N.A. and Federal  
6 National Mortgage Association.

7 Your Honor, we submitted a motion to dismiss on  
8 different grounds initially based on jurisdictional grounds,  
9 as well as alternative relief for abstention or transfer of  
10 venue. We served those by e-mail and First Class Mail, and  
11 initially, and then subsequent -- pursuant to Your Honor's  
12 request at the pretrial conference, we've subsequently  
13 provided that several times again both by overnight mail and  
14 electronic mail to --

15 THE COURT: Did you have any contact, or did  
16 anybody in your office have any contact with Mr. Walton?

17 MR. SCHELL: I have not personally. My associate,  
18 Elizabeth Kukura had a telephone conference with him on one  
19 occasion, I believe about extending the time to respond.  
20 And I actually have -- we actually submitted a stipulation  
21 extending time to respond to the complaint, which he did  
22 respond to by email, indicating that he did not -- this is  
23 October 31st, it was one or two days after Hurricane Sandy,  
24 and he -- after he'd initially expressed a willingness to  
25 extend the time by that email, he said he would not, and

1 that he -- because at the -- there were eviction proceedings  
2 going on in certain of the properties. His complaint was --  
3 you know, this complaint was filed after I think at least  
4 one of the properties had undergone a non-judicial  
5 foreclosure, and I believe maybe a sale.

6 But her conversation with him at that point was  
7 only about just extending the time to respond to the  
8 complaint. And subsequently she'd reached out to him, but  
9 had received no answer, and we've sent multiple emails to  
10 him since, but we've received nothing in response, other  
11 than that one email from the same email address that we'd be  
12 using to provide multiple copies of these papers.

13 THE COURT: Okay.

14 MR. SCHELL: So, Your Honor, we actually  
15 wholeheartedly agree with the SIPA Trustee with respect to  
16 his argument, and motion to dismiss, and would ask that we  
17 join in that as well and be dismissed for the same reasons.

18 We've also --

19 THE COURT: What would the reasons be for a  
20 dismissal as to your clients?

21 MR. SCHELL: Well, Your Honor, as set forth in the  
22 trustee's papers, they did not -- their allegations fail as  
23 a matter of law, because they did not adequately provide the  
24 plats and other -- you know, they did not satisfy the  
25 provisions of the Georgia statutes.

1 THE COURT: Well, I think the situation as to your  
2 clients may be different from the situation as to LBI. And  
3 I'll note that one of the alternative grounds for relief  
4 that you seek is a transfer of the litigation to Georgia.

5 MR. SCHELL: Yes, sir, although preferably we  
6 would --

7 THE COURT: I'm sure you'd much prefer for the case  
8 to be dismissed.

9 MR. SCHELL: And I think we have -- you know, our  
10 jurisdictional basis is, you know, that -- we believe that's  
11 a strong ground for dismissal on jurisdictional grounds at  
12 least.

13 THE COURT: One of my concerns here is that this is  
14 close to a pro se litigation, even though Mr. Walton  
15 apparently is a lawyer, but he's also plaintiff in the sense  
16 that his economic interests are impacted. Based upon the  
17 pleadings, it does not appear to me that Mr. Walton is well  
18 versed in bankruptcy practice. And the decision to name LBI  
19 represented the only jurisdictional nexus to the bankruptcy  
20 court. That decision appears to have been either a tactical  
21 one or a mistake. Either way, he has now elected not to  
22 press claims as to LBI.

23 It is much less clear to me that he has chosen not  
24 to press claims as to your clients. And it's also less  
25 clear to me that he may not actually have some claims as to



1 your clients, I simply don't know the facts.

2 To the extent the dismissal would be based upon  
3 inadequacy of pleading, I would much prefer that a court of  
4 competent jurisdiction in Georgia make a decision as to the  
5 adequacy of pleading. And so my inclination is to transfer  
6 venue of this case to the Northern District of Georgia, with  
7 the understanding that it is, in all respects, without  
8 prejudice to your rights to continue to press your motion to  
9 dismiss, and also without prejudice to Mr. Walton's rights  
10 to appear and be heard on the merits of that before a more  
11 convenient forum.

12 MR. SCHELL: I understand, Your Honor. Could I  
13 also ask if we also were never served, and there's no record  
14 of -- at least we have no record of service, neither Bank of  
15 America nor Fannie Mae, and there's no affidavit of service,  
16 so on that ground I would ask that it be dismissed.

17 I just -- Your Honor, you know, I understand that  
18 he is one of the plaintiffs, but he is an attorney, and the  
19 -- you know, a summons was issued, he has not satisfied the  
20 procedural prerequisites. We would just ask if it be  
21 dismissed on -- or if it be -- rather than be transferred,  
22 that it be dismissed, if he's required -- you know, if he  
23 wishes, he can reinitiate this proceeding in Georgia, but I  
24 just think that would be a more appropriate way of  
25 proceeding with him, rather than transferring it, where we

1 still haven't been served. Because then we'll be forced to  
2 make a -- whatever motion to dismiss we'll make in that  
3 jurisdiction, we'll have to raise the fact we haven't been  
4 served, and there will be a procedural issue there.

5 THE COURT: I hear you and I understand your  
6 argument, but I am inclined to simply transfer the  
7 litigation in its present posture to a court of competent  
8 jurisdiction in Georgia, where a judge in the transferee  
9 jurisdiction can assess the adequacy of the pleadings, the  
10 adequacy of service, and can deal with this on the merits,  
11 as opposed to having a bankruptcy court in the Southern  
12 District of New York, deal with what is, by its very nature,  
13 a local issue.

14 MR. SCHELL: I understand, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: So I'll entertain an appropriate order.

16 MR. SCHELL: Thank you, Your Honor. I'll -- may I  
17 submit that later today?

18 THE COURT: Yes.

19 MR. SCHELL: Thank you.

20 MR. MARGOLIN: Thank you, Your Honor. May we be  
21 excused?

22 THE COURT: You may.

23 MR. MARGOLIN: Thank you. And I suppose others  
24 will take your place in a moment.

25 (Pause)

1 MR. MITCHELL: Your Honor, do you have a preference  
2 to sides of plaintiff and defendant?

3 THE COURT: You're going to have to choose your own  
4 sides.

5 MR. MITCHELL: Thank you.

6 (Pause)

7 THE COURT: Do you have any agreements to the order  
8 of presentation?

9 MR. MITCHELL: Yes, Your Honor, we do. FirstBank  
10 will proceed first.

11 THE COURT: Okay. Let's proceed.

12 MR. MITCHELL: Thank you, Your Honor. Jeffrey  
13 Mitchell from Dickstein Shapiro. I'm here with Judy Cohen  
14 and Stefanie Greer also of my office.

15 This case has been pending for quite a while. It's  
16 our first time in front of you really to discuss any  
17 substance, and we're glad to finally have the opportunity to  
18 do that. We've disputed this case with Cleary for many  
19 years, and now we finally have a chance to share with you,  
20 as we have in the papers to talk about here, some of the  
21 evidence that we've uncovered and learned about during  
22 discovery, and to learn whether the way we interpret the  
23 facts of this case are, in fact, reasonable and correct.

24 We have two different views arising from a common  
25 set of facts. I think we generally agree with Barclays as

1 to what the facts are, it's what the impact of those facts  
2 are in this particular case.

3 THE COURT: Let me ask you an initial question, and  
4 this is actually a question for both of you. I note that  
5 each side has retained experts, and that the experts  
6 prepared reports. To what extent is expert opinion relevant  
7 to a decision for either side? And if it is relevant, to  
8 what extent should I be taking testimony in connection with  
9 the pending motions?

10 MR. MITCHELL: That's a good question. There are  
11 two aspects of the case, Your Honor, and as I walk through  
12 it, you know, I think it'll become clear. The first part of  
13 the case, or the first part of our position is that the  
14 FirstBank collateral, I'll refer to it as the FirstBank  
15 collateral. I understand that Barclays takes the position  
16 it was no longer collateral in the hands of LBI. But I'll  
17 refer to it as the FirstBank collateral.

18 We claim the FirstBank collateral is not covered by  
19 the asset purchase agreement and clarification letter. And  
20 therefore, was not a purchased asset. If the Court agrees  
21 with that interpretation of the operative documents, then  
22 expert testimony is not particularly relevant to that  
23 examination.

24 The second aspect of the challenge to title that  
25 Barclays claims is whether or not the FirstBank collateral

1 was an asset of the LBI estate. I think the expert  
2 testimony is important with respect to that issue.  
3 Barclays' expert testified and admitted on examination that  
4 FirstBank properly listed the collateral as its own asset,  
5 on its own books and records, even after the repos that  
6 we've learned about during discovery, the repos from LBSF to  
7 LBI of that collateral. And that in his opinion, it was  
8 appropriate for that to be listed as its own asset, even  
9 after those repos.

10 So I would think that that expert testimony for  
11 Barclays' own expert, the admission of that is important.  
12 And I think the testimony of our expert, who is one of the  
13 foremost authorities on ISDA master agreements had never  
14 seen a case like this. And his testimony was that the idea  
15 or notion that the use of collateral by repo of -- by an  
16 affiliate repo to deprive the party that posted collateral  
17 of its interest and rights in that collateral was never  
18 contemplated by ISDA and the ISDA agreements.

19 And the circumstances presented in this case were  
20 unique and a one-off. And he has substantial experience and  
21 capability of testifying to that. He's a professor at the  
22 University of Utah, and I think he's considered one of the  
23 foremost authorities, he's published extensively on ISDA,  
24 never saw it before, so his opinion about what should happen  
25 here I think carries great weight because he has written

1 about and contemplated many circumstances. But never the  
2 circumstance that occurred here. It was beyond -- I forgot  
3 the exact words he used, but it was beyond comprehension  
4 what happened here.

5 The idea that one act, unknown to the party that  
6 posts collateral, that internally, not an external repo of  
7 your counterparty to some -- to the market, the third party,  
8 but some secret unknown internal repo among affiliates, on  
9 top of that, a repo to the party that's already the  
10 custodian of the collateral, executed exclusively by  
11 employees of the custodian on behalf of both parties,  
12 without notice to anyone in the world, to Your Honor, to  
13 anyone, that that was sufficient to deprive a party, the  
14 post collateral of its rights in its own collateral. And I  
15 think that that would carry great weight. And I think if we  
16 get to that issue, I think expert testimony is important.

17 The expert provided by Barclays was not an ISDA  
18 expert. He was a -- and I think from the standpoint of the  
19 two experts together, our expert was somebody who studies  
20 and teaches and lectures on ISDA agreements. Their expert  
21 was a person from the industry, employed by a broker dealer,  
22 also had never been -- also admitted, he never saw this  
23 situation before, and I think you had both experts dealing  
24 in a world of unknowns, and I think, you know, the expert  
25 testimony with respect to that I would say, you know, we

1 provided an expert who is the right expert for this  
2 particular circumstance.

3 THE COURT: Let me find out from counsel for  
4 Barclays if he has any comment with regard to the use of  
5 expert testimony in connection with the pending motions.

6 MR. MORAG: Your Honor, Boaz Morag on Cleary on  
7 behalf of Barclays. We don't believe that expert testimony  
8 is relevant to the motions or necessary for Your Honor to  
9 consider.

10 The issue is one of contractual interpretation,  
11 interpretation of Your Honor's sale order. The expert that  
12 -- the experts, frankly, really at bottom, are all  
13 addressing legal issues. The facts are not disputed as you  
14 heard, and it's the legal consequences of those facts.

15 To some extent, Professor Johnson, their expert, is  
16 offering you his legal opinion. Our expert can't do that  
17 because he's not a lawyer, but we don't rely on that. We  
18 don't think it's really relevant. It's some background of  
19 understanding of the industry, but it certainly shouldn't  
20 detain you from considering this threshold issue, are these  
21 purchased assets under the terms of the sale order. And  
22 frankly we think that's the end of the analysis that Your  
23 Honor has to do.

24 We, in fact, proposed to FirstBank that we can --  
25 we don't need experts in this case, and we should just

1 present to you the legal issues, and be able to truncate  
2 some of this lengthy proceeding. They decided they wanted  
3 to get all the -- everything conceivable done first, so we  
4 had to go out and get an expert. But we don't think it's  
5 relevant to this motion.

6 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

7 MR. MITCHELL: Thank you, Your Honor. So turning  
8 to the argument. You know, we're here in this court, this  
9 is a diversity case originally brought by FirstBank in  
10 district court as the Court knows. In FirstBank's view, a  
11 decision in this case will have no affect on the Lehman  
12 estate.

13 The issue before the Court is whether the  
14 collateral posted by FirstBank with LBSF to secure swaps,  
15 obligations, was a quote, purchased asset, as defined in the  
16 clarification letter between Barclays and LBI.

17 THE COURT: Well, your very articulation of the  
18 issue takes it into the jurisdiction of the bankruptcy court  
19 because of the implication that that assertion has with  
20 respect to the final sale order.

21 MR. MITCHELL: And I think -- that's why we're  
22 here. I understand why we're here, and Barclays claims that  
23 the -- it was a purchased asset, and therefore, bound by the  
24 order entered by the Court. But if the Court finds that it  
25 was not a purchased asset as FirstBank alleges, that's the



1 end of the case.

2 THE COURT: Let me ask you a threshold question.

3 My understanding is that the parties have stipulated that

4 the appropriate cut off date for permissible hypothecation

5 of collateral under Section 6(c) of the ISDA master

6 agreement was September 15, 2008.

7 As I understand it, the repos that you challenge

8 between LBSF and LBI, that transferred the collateral from

9 LBSF to LBI, and that thereby enabled LBI to aggregate the

10 collateral with other assets in the New York Fed repo, which

11 was taken out by Barclays on September 18, and became the

12 subject of the sale order on September 19 and 20.

13 My understanding is, that the transfer from LBSF to

14 LBI in the first instance represented a permissible

15 hypothecation. Do you agree with that?

16 MR. MITCHELL: Whether there was a permissive use?

17 Yes, I would agree with that. That would be the permissive

18 use.

19 THE COURT: To the extent that that was the

20 permissive use, why does that not end your case right now?

21 MR. MITCHELL: Well, first of all, that's the

22 second part of whether it's an asset of the estate. I don't

23 think that gets to whether it's a purchased asset or not. I

24 think the Court would agree that all assets owned by LBI

25 were not necessarily purchased assets. Only assets that

1 were assets, that were used in connection with or for  
2 purposes of operating the business.

3 So whether or not it's owned by LBI is not the be  
4 all and end all, I think that's the second analysis. But I  
5 can go to the second part first. Why that would not change  
6 things.

7 The use, and this also gets to the expert  
8 testimony, but the use made of the collateral was open repo,  
9 not time repo. An open repo can be closed at any time. The  
10 undisputed evidence, from Barclays' own witnesses, is that  
11 an open repo is the type of repo that enables the  
12 repatriation of whatever was sent out back.

13 Also, a repo is not -- for Barclays to prevail that  
14 the repo is the be all and end all, especially a repo like  
15 this, and obviously we've challenged certain aspects of the  
16 repo. We -- during discovery, I -- there are things that we  
17 learned about these repos that make the repos themselves not  
18 necessarily something Barclays knew at the time, but the  
19 repos themselves are highly questionable.

20 But putting aside, let's assume they're even not  
21 questionable, it's not -- they're arm's length repos. These  
22 are open repos. Meaning that the moment LBSF can no longer  
23 use the collateral, the repo is over.

24 Now, we're talking about incestuous relationship  
25 between the two parties. The asset comes back to LBSF and

1 now becomes collateral. So from September 15 forward, which  
2 I think is a critical -- we agree, that's a critical day.  
3 From September 15th forward, those repos were finished.

4 Now, I -- you might say to me, why, how can I say  
5 those repos were finished based on the evidence in this  
6 record. Well, we presented to the Court a series of emails  
7 that clearly it's undisputed on this record that FirstBank  
8 had no notice of these repos that LBSF made to LBI. And  
9 throughout its relationship with LBSF continued to receive  
10 account statements. And those account statements reflected  
11 that the collateral was owned by FirstBank.

12 We also have the testimony that notwithstanding  
13 those repos, FirstBank, from their own expert, properly  
14 continued to list even after the repos, the assets as their  
15 own asset on their own books and records, because collateral  
16 doesn't belong to the party -- doesn't belong to the secured  
17 party, it belongs to the party that posts it.

18 So at the time of the sale order hearing, there was  
19 nothing in any document, record, LBSF wasn't even in  
20 bankruptcy, to put FirstBank on any kind of notice, inquiry  
21 or otherwise, that collateral in the hands of a non-bankrupt  
22 party LBSF was even at issue in a bankruptcy case.

23 And shortly after FirstBank -- FirstBank goes on to  
24 its website, it can't get in, Barclays has taken over, there  
25 are communications that it has, including communications

1 with Barclays, but FirstBank retains counsel, Clifford  
2 Chance. Clifford Chance reaches out to Weil Gotshal and  
3 Hughes Hubbard. Weil Gotshal, a party -- a counsel that  
4 helped draft, the principal draftsman -- draftsman of the  
5 clarification letter; Hughes Hubbard, counsel for the  
6 trustee, the record shows, and Mr. Morag is going to present  
7 to you a demonstrative exhibit that goes through these  
8 emails.

9 FirstBank reaches out to Hughes Hubbard and Weil.  
10 Weil reaches out to Barclays. Barclays, by former employees  
11 of Lehman, responds to Weil. And that response is later  
12 transmitted to FirstBank after a series of behind the scenes  
13 emails that the collateral is still at LBI being held  
14 pursuant to the custody agreement.

15 That's not all. Because we also know, Mr. Morag  
16 has made a point of this in the papers, he says, these  
17 employees -- the documents speak for themselves, they're  
18 very clear, but clearly there's a reach-out, FirstBank wants  
19 to find its collateral. It's told it's being held by LBI.  
20 Subsequent to that it negotiates with LBSF for months. LBSF  
21 for months over close-out figures, in order to obtain a  
22 return of the collateral, and isn't told until June 2009  
23 that LBSF or LBI no longer has the collateral.

24 But the most important fact, Your Honor, why these  
25 repos were not repos that transferred title to LBI, is the

1 claim LBI files in the LBSF bankruptcy in January of 2009,  
2 which is -- Weil Gotshal, after all of these exchanges, it's  
3 stipulated Exhibit 15, which is the claim filed by LBI. LBI  
4 files a claim -- LBSF files a claim in the LBI bankruptcy, I  
5 may have misspoken, LBSF files a claim in the LBI  
6 bankruptcy, page 3 of the claim. "Claim for securities as  
7 of September 19, 2008; LBI owes me securities; Answer, Yes."  
8 And then there is a redaction.

9 And then on page 7 of 23, unredacted, is a list of  
10 each of the FirstBank CUSIPs. And then subsequent to that,  
11 if you go back further in the document, is a copy of an  
12 amendment agreement, which is an agreement, the amendment  
13 agreement that amends the custody agreement, pursuant to  
14 which LBI held the FirstBank securities as collateral on  
15 behalf of LBSF, and it lists FirstBank as one of the parties  
16 for whom LBI was holding the securities for LBSF.

17 So Weil Gotshal after investigating the claim by  
18 First Bank, after inquiring of Barclays, and looking at that  
19 email exchange, in January of 2009, filed a claim in the --  
20 LBSF, Weil Gotshal on behalf of LBSF files a claim in the  
21 LBI bankruptcy, to recover FirstBank's securities.

22 If those securities were, in fact, an asset of LBI,  
23 owned by LBI, everybody knew it, it was so abundantly clear,  
24 Weil Gotshal certainly would've known. Now, there are other  
25 cases in front of Your Honor they cited in their papers,

1 where at the same time, without a record, there were other  
2 parties that said, my collateral, or my property ended up  
3 sold. Interestingly, Your Honor issued a decision, Weil  
4 Gotshal did in other cases take the position that yes, the  
5 collateral was, or the assets were mixed into the assets and  
6 were sold, but not with respect to FirstBank.

7 FirstBank securities were the subject specifically  
8 of the claim filed by Weil Gotshal on behalf of LBSF in the  
9 LBI bankruptcy in January 2009, and that's after reaching  
10 out to Barclays. So I think the evidence is clear it was  
11 not an asset of LBI.

12 THE COURT: With respect to the argument you're  
13 making, I'll simply note that experience has shown me that  
14 just because a claim is filed in a certain way proves  
15 nothing. We had \$1.2 trillion of claims filed in the LBHI  
16 Chapter 11 cases, many of them have been disallowed and  
17 expunged as a result of a process of omnibus claim  
18 objections. And in the LBI case, many of the claims made  
19 have been the subject of adverse determinations made by the  
20 trustee.

21 So the mere fact that a particular claim is made as  
22 of a bar date proves nothing.

23 MR. MITCHELL: I think there's a little more than  
24 that, Your Honor, is I think along this --

25 THE COURT: I'm simply giving you my --

1 MR. MITCHELL: I understand.

2 THE COURT: -- color on what you just said.

3 MR. MITCHELL: You know, I appreciate that. What I  
4 think, though, is you have to read all these communications.  
5 It's not as if this is simply Weil Gotshal filing a claim  
6 without inquiry.

7 What we've uncovered during discovery in this case,  
8 it's evidence in the case, we're here on motions for summary  
9 judgment. We think it's clear that this evidence  
10 establishes that we're entitled to this property back.

11 I think what this evidence, at a minimum  
12 establishes, is that there would be a question of fact as to  
13 the import of these communications. What they would mean  
14 and whether, in fact, this was an asset of the estate.

15 We think the documents are crystal clear, because  
16 it's not just -- we know that as of the time the Court  
17 conducted the sale hearing, there was nothing, nothing at  
18 all to put FirstBank on any kind of notice, inquiry or  
19 otherwise, that its collateral was anything other than  
20 collateral, because LBSF was not in bankruptcy at the time.

21 So this was the LBI bankruptcy. There was no  
22 reason for FirstBank to have had any concern. Subsequent to  
23 that, FirstBank does -- no reason to believe there's a  
24 problem, and FirstBank goes to the counsel for the parties,  
25 the Lehman parties, the trustee, Weil Gotshal, and the net

1 result of that is, nine months of negotiation with LBSF to  
2 get the return of its collateral, to come up with close-out  
3 figures and get its collateral back. That's not consistent  
4 with, it's on Schedule A, we purchased the asset, it's gone.

5 That's what Cleary -- that's what Barclays is  
6 claiming in this case. It's so abundantly clear that this  
7 was a purchased asset, and everyone knew it. Well, if  
8 everyone would know it, why didn't everyone know it at that  
9 point?

10 We have people -- we have, not just reaching out to  
11 counsel for Lehman, but then reaching across to Barclays  
12 itself by former employees of Lehman, who are doing this  
13 investigation. And they say, we hold your collateral. You  
14 know, we dispute what the word we means, but we hold your  
15 collateral. They're calling it collateral. That's  
16 communicated back to FirstBank. And FirstBank relies on  
17 that.

18 So, you know, with the benefit of four years to  
19 think about it, come up with arguments, and be in front of  
20 Your Honor here in 2013, arguing the case, if we go back in  
21 time to 2008 without the benefit of any of this, FirstBank  
22 is told the opposite of notice. FirstBank is told your  
23 collateral is here, we're negotiating to give it back to  
24 you.

25 So when they ultimately don't get it back, it's



1 certainly a reasonable response to say, how did that happen.  
2 And the facts of this case support a conclusion that this  
3 was never treated as an asset of LBI. There are other  
4 reasons, we can go through that.

5 I'd like to talk about the purchased asset  
6 component, and maybe come back to this if I could for a  
7 minute.

8 THE COURT: Okay.

9 MR. MITCHELL: Because if we talk about the  
10 purchased asset component, this may not be the most  
11 important part of the case. It's an important part, but it  
12 may not be the driving part of the case. Because I don't  
13 think this was a purchased asset either. But there are --  
14 there's undisputed evidence in the record that this was  
15 never treated as a sale by LBI. And Barclays would have  
16 this Court believe that a repo is akin to an outright, no  
17 holes barred, sale of assets. It's not.

18 A repo is a two-part contract. It's a sale with an  
19 obligation to return. Other than the Bevill Bresler case,  
20 the cases are legion, where it's the economic substance  
21 and reality of the repo that governs. Repos were treated  
22 here, undisputed evidence, as a secured loan by LBI. Why?  
23 It's obvious why. Because LBSF didn't own the collateral.  
24 So LBI couldn't take the collateral in on its books and  
25 records as its own asset, that would be stealing.

1           So what it did is it used it. It borrowed the  
2 collateral and knew it had to give it back. That's what  
3 this repo was in effect, but it did it to itself, because it  
4 was already custodian.

5           Now Barclays says, well, they weren't custodian,  
6 they weren't appointed custodian. That's not true. We have  
7 the securities account control agreement, which is Cohen  
8 Exhibit 3. The exhibit to Cohen Exhibit 3 specifically  
9 lists FirstBank as a party that they're holding collateral  
10 for. It gives FirstBank an account number. Then we have in  
11 the claim filed by Weil Gotshal in the LBI bankruptcy on  
12 behalf of LBS an amendment to that agreement which does the  
13 same thing.

14           So basically what this Court would be saying, if  
15 the Court would say that the use of the FirstBank collateral  
16 before September 15th, 2008 by open repo, that that is an  
17 outright sale by LBSF to LBI sufficient to deprive FirstBank  
18 of its property rights of its own property, when that  
19 outright sale on top of it was executed by the custodian by  
20 its own employees on both sides, and then never treated that  
21 way by LBSF's own employees or own counsel, subsequent to  
22 that, that's just the evidence. I'm not making the evidence  
23 up, that's what the undisputed evidence is.

24           And while I agree we think the evidence is the  
25 same, I think that's compelling evidence, that this was

1 never an asset of LBI. Certainly never an asset free and  
2 clear.

3 Barclays concedes as well, repos are two part. You  
4 have a repo and a reverse. It's not just a repo. The  
5 evidence undisputed, their own witness, that the assets were  
6 reflected on LBI's books and records with an RR designation.  
7 They were not reflected as free and clear.

8 They were held in something called a custodial  
9 account. Barclays says that doesn't mean anything, that's  
10 only a title to the account, but that's what it was called.

11 So this is not something that was, as they would  
12 argue to you, LBSF sold the collateral. They didn't. They  
13 repo'd the collateral -- they didn't repo the collateral,  
14 LBI employees executed a repo of the collateral, presumably  
15 to use it in some fashion when they had the right to do  
16 that. That terminated. And subsequent to that, there's no  
17 consideration, there's nothing whatsoever in this record to  
18 establish that that repo still existed after the 15th.

19 THE COURT: Well, you said presumably to use it in  
20 some fashion. My understanding of the factor in which it  
21 was used, is that it was packaged with other CUSIPs and  
22 became part of the financing via by the New York Fed for the  
23 operations of LBI during Lehman week. And that Barclays  
24 then stepped into the shoes of the New York Fed, and had all  
25 of the rights that the New York Fed with respect to that

1 collateral. Isn't that correct?

2 MR. MITCHELL: I would say, no, Your Honor. I  
3 don't think parties can deem the property of somebody else  
4 to belong to them. And I think what that would purport to  
5 do, and there's cases on that. I think we cited an IBM  
6 case, with respect to assets of an estate. Strangers can  
7 deem all they want, but deeming doesn't make it so. Either  
8 it's an asset of the estate, or it's not an asset of the  
9 estate. And any use made of the collateral prior to the  
10 ultimate disposition and a liquidation would be different  
11 anyway. Because that doesn't mean that it can't be put back  
12 at LSF.

13 So -- and that's one of the things the expert  
14 testified. There is no concept under ISDAs that you can use  
15 somebody's collateral and steal it. There is the  
16 countervailing, the right to use provision is  
17 counterbalanced by the obligation to return provision.

18 So, you know, these are pledge agreements. Many  
19 pledge agreements are written in absolutes, as the Court I'm  
20 sure knows. And then when there's a default, the absolutes  
21 become more absolute. But here, there was no default, and  
22 in this particular circumstance, there is no right to use --  
23 the expert testimony is, there is no right to use collateral  
24 in the secured party's own liquidation. That's beyond  
25 thought. It's beyond anybody's writing. It's never

1 happened before, and if it's justified in this case, it will  
2 be the first time it's ever happened.

3 And, you know, we've spent four years in this case,  
4 if there was a case where it happened before, I'm sure it  
5 would've been brought to the attention of Your Honor. This  
6 is the first time something like this has ever happened.

7 THE COURT: Well, I don't know if this is the first  
8 time that it's ever happened, or simply the first time that  
9 it's gotten to the level of argument on a motion for summary  
10 judgment.

11 MR. MITCHELL: That's fair.

12 THE COURT: But in the context of the Lehman  
13 insolvency, it's my understanding that a great deal of  
14 confusion occurred prior to and immediately following the  
15 bankruptcy, that every counterparty pretty much in every  
16 part of the planet, had an actual reason to be concerned as  
17 to their collateral, regardless of whether their Lehman  
18 affiliate had filed for bankruptcy on September 15 as of  
19 September 15. And took appropriate action to protect  
20 themselves immediately, including early termination of  
21 virtually every derivative transaction that existed,  
22 regardless of the counterparty, and regardless of whether  
23 that counterparty was or was not in bankruptcy at the time.

24 So I don't know if this is the only example. I, in  
25 fact, expect quite to the contrary. There are countless

1 examples of institutions in the very same position as your  
2 client, that when scurrying about trying to locate their  
3 "collateral", and I find the fact that you received some  
4 communications via email or other sources of communication  
5 that provided missed ques as to the actual location of the  
6 collateral as being largely irrelevant.

7 The question is, was there or was there not a right  
8 to sell.

9 MR. MITCHELL: Well, I think it's -- again, we're  
10 jumping, not to quibble with the Court, but I mean, the you  
11 received, it's Clifford Chance, counsel for FirstBank,  
12 hardly an insubstantial practitioner in this court, and they  
13 were in communication with the trustee, with the trustee's  
14 counsel, with you know, Weil Gotshal, and you know, I can't  
15 speak for why they chose to do what they did when they did  
16 it, but they certainly were speaking to the right people,  
17 and they were receiving the appropriate assurances and the  
18 paper trail of the record is, that that is, in fact, the  
19 assurances they received.

20 THE COURT: Are you saying that incorrect  
21 assurances trump the facts? I don't think they do.

22 MR. MITCHELL: No, I think that we have admissions.  
23 I think that there are matters of evidence here, and  
24 admissions of a party opponent, certainly it can't overcome  
25 the summary -- on a summary judgment motion, where you have

1 an admission, your own employees responding to an inquiry,  
2 that's an appropriate inquiry, and that response is an  
3 inquiry right or wrong, I mean, let's assume it's wrong, but  
4 I don't know that it's wrong. I don't think it's wrong  
5 under the circumstances, but they make a response. The  
6 simple response was, and these are Barclays' employees, the  
7 simple response is, we bought it, it's on Schedule A.  
8 That's all they had to say. They didn't say that. They  
9 never said that. And that's not what was told to Weil  
10 Gotshal. And that's not what Weil Gotshal -- if Weil  
11 Gotshal had been told that, is there any doubt Weil Gotshal  
12 would not have filed a claim for return of the securities in  
13 January? That was a simple response.

14 By the end of October, early November 2008, if  
15 that's the fact, then somebody should say that's the fact.  
16 Counsel says, it was no longer, certainly Schedule A was  
17 completed. They didn't rely on Schedule A at the time of  
18 the sale order, because it didn't exist yet. And the  
19 evidence that we adduced during discovery is Schedule A is  
20 as much an inventory of what they received as it is, you  
21 know, a statement of what it is they thought they were  
22 buying. But certainly by the end of -- they helped prepare  
23 it. By the end -- these are the people that helped prepare  
24 it.

25 So by the end of October, beginning of November

1 2008 when you are asked, where is FirstBank's -- I represent  
2 FirstBank, I'm looking for my client's collateral. That's  
3 the communication they get. That is transmitted to  
4 Barclays. Former employees of Lehman, now working for  
5 Barclays respond to those inquiries, that results in not  
6 only communication to us, but the LBSF, but LBSF filing  
7 claim in the LBI bankruptcy for the return of our  
8 securities.

9 If the answer to that question was they're on  
10 Schedule A, and we own them, and it's a purchased asset,  
11 then that should've been the response. But instead, it set  
12 in motion a series of other events. And I believe, and I  
13 submit to the Court that's what happened is, subsequent to  
14 the those events, during the course of discovery, it --  
15 other facts have now come to light that Barclays is trying  
16 to now change history and go back to the beginning and say,  
17 those things never happened. They didn't believe they  
18 bought it. They didn't think it was a purchased asset.

19 Let me walk through the purchase -- let's walk  
20 through the clarification letter for a second. I think it  
21 may help clarify some of this if I can. Because I'd like to  
22 walk the Court through it.

23 Reading Barclays' reply papers, I was taken by  
24 this, we got a representation that they owned all the  
25 purchased assets. And, you know, purchased assets,



1 purchased assets, purchased assets, capital P, capital A.  
2 And if you think about it, there's really a circular  
3 reference. Because if it's not a purchased asset, then you  
4 didn't get a representation that LBI owned it.

5 So I went back to the clarification letter because  
6 we've obviously argued to the Court in our papers that it's  
7 not a purchased asset for a variety of reasons.

8 So if I could, Your Honor, Cohen Exhibit 12 is the  
9 clarification letter. I'd just like to walk you through  
10 that, because there's some interesting things in here.  
11 And --

12 THE COURT: Do you have copies of the exhibits or  
13 do I need to look for this myself?

14 MR. MITCHELL: Do you have an extra copy?  
15 (Pause)

16 MR. MITCHELL: I have a copy here.

17 THE COURT: I have it, it's okay.

18 MR. MITCHELL: Thank you, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: It's just -- it's a terribly thick  
20 binder, that's all.

21 MR. MITCHELL: I understand. Obviously, it's an  
22 important document.

23 Now, the structure of the clarification letter  
24 struck me. Because I think it's -- I don't know that  
25 anybody's ever really quite studied it because, you know --

1 THE COURT: Believe me --

2 MR. MITCHELL: -- I don't think we've ever quite  
3 had a case like this.

4 THE COURT: Believe me, people have studied the  
5 clarification letter.

6 MR. MITCHELL: Okay. Well, I didn't -- I haven't  
7 seen anybody quite pick up on this, so maybe I'm wrong, but  
8 I will go through it.

9 The subparagraph A is like the lead paragraph in  
10 paragraph 1, purchased assets. That is the only paragraph  
11 in the entire clarification letter that describes purchased  
12 assets. And, in fact, it's only A that's purchased assets.  
13 After A, you move down to other things, including excluded  
14 assets and others. So really, it's really 1A is what the  
15 purchased assets are.

16 Your Honor cited to that clause in the Evergreen  
17 Solar case, you called it the broker dealer business. But  
18 what they call it here is the capital B, Business. And the  
19 "Business" is defined in the asset purchase agreement, and  
20 it's limited to what you call the North American broker  
21 dealer business, and I think it's stipulated that the  
22 derivatives business of LBSF was not that. They did not  
23 acquire the business that was the business that LBSF did  
24 with Barclays. I don't think there's any dispute of that in  
25 this case. They don't argue that it was part of the

1 business.

2 Now --

3 THE COURT: You said the business that LBSF did  
4 with Barclays. Is that what you meant to say?

5 MR. MITCHELL: I'm sorry, LBSF did with FirstBank,  
6 the swaps agreements and ISDAs. That's not the business  
7 they acquired.

8 Now, it becomes more clear as you go through. Now,  
9 the provision that Barclays relies upon to claim title to  
10 the FirstBank securities is little (ii) in the hole under A,  
11 the securities -- and it is the clause that says, "The  
12 securities owned by LBI and transferred to purchaser or its  
13 affiliates under the Barclays' repurchase agreement as  
14 defined below, as specified on Schedule A."

15 Barclays reads that provision as an absolute  
16 provision, 100 percent absolute. Except that's not the way  
17 the agreement is drafted. That agreement is a subparagraph  
18 of A. So you can't read out of that clause the necessity  
19 that the assets being necessary, be used primarily in the  
20 business or necessary for the operation of the business.  
21 And because it says the word -- because it said "shall  
22 include." See, it ends with "shall include."

23 And then 1 through 5, that follow, the little 1  
24 through 5 that follow as a structure are subordinate to A.  
25 So you don't lose the idea that the assets have to be used

1 in the business or be necessary for the operation of the  
2 business. And the business does not include the business  
3 that FirstBank was doing with LBSF.

4 So even if LBI, even if the Court believes, or the  
5 Court would conclude that the communications to FirstBank  
6 that it was still collateral was a mistake, that it really  
7 was owned by LBI, that's not the end. Because this clause  
8 says, even if it's on Schedule A, and even if it is owned by  
9 LBI, they don't necessarily get it. Because they didn't buy  
10 everything. But that's not all.

11 If you then go to C, 1(c) on page 2 of the  
12 clarification letter, we then start to talk about excluded  
13 assets. So let's say we're not so clear on what purchased  
14 assets are, and this is the clarification letter, right. So  
15 this is supposed to clarify things.

16 In the middle of the paragraph on excluded assets,  
17 it says, "Excluded assets shall not include any and all  
18 property of any customer or maintained by or on behalf of  
19 LBI to secure the obligations of any customers, whose  
20 accounts are being transferred to purchaser's part of  
21 the --" capital B, "Business."

22 Well, that means that if you're taking the account,  
23 then you take the collateral. And as Your Honor, in the 60  
24 -- in your own 60(b) decision wrote, in connection with the  
25 dispute between Lehman and Barclays, your assumption as well

1 as Judge Forest's assumption when she looked at the publicly  
2 traded derivatives, is that if collateral transferred,  
3 pursuant to this clause, then collateral transferred as  
4 collateral. That was the assumption. Plain as day.

5 So now we have 1(a), has to be part of the  
6 business, and not just the fact that it's on Schedule A and  
7 owned by LBI is not enough, because they didn't buy  
8 everything. And now if that wasn't clear, here we have  
9 excluded asset as any collateral that they don't take the  
10 account of. And they didn't take ours. But that may not be  
11 enough, right.

12 So let's go to paragraph 21. And paragraph 21  
13 says, as if the first two aren't clear enough, "Definition  
14 of excluded contract. As used in the agreement, the term  
15 excluded contract shall include any ISDA master agreement,  
16 and any master swap agreement, and any schedule thereto or  
17 supplemented or amended thereto."

18 So they didn't take our contract for sure. They  
19 stipulate to that fact. And our collateral was posted  
20 pursuant to an annex to an ISDA master agreement.

21 So where are we here in terms of the claim that  
22 this was a purchased asset, a fairly thin read. And not  
23 just a fairly thin read, inconsistent with what appears to  
24 be the plain language of the clarification letter, in terms  
25 of what was purchased, what was excluded, and separately

1 inconsistent with what I say are evidentiary admissions  
2 after the fact by Barclays' own people that they didn't buy  
3 it.

4 The fact that Barclays during discovery learned  
5 about the existence, we don't know by the way that they  
6 weren't closed, but they learned about the existence of  
7 repos that occurred before the collateral use cut-off date  
8 doesn't mean that it was still collateral -- that it was  
9 still open repo at that time, a) doesn't mean that. But  
10 separately, it's inconsistent with their own recitation of  
11 the facts. They didn't purchase it. If it's not a  
12 purchased asset, then the sale order doesn't cover it.

13 If that reading, and I dare say, that's fairly  
14 straight forward contract interpretation. There's no  
15 question in A, that little 1 through 5 in the hole are  
16 subordinate to A. So A still applies.

17 Now, when we add to this that we reach out to Weil  
18 Gotshal, who we understand was the primary draftsman of the  
19 document, it's clear when Weil Gotshal files a claim on  
20 behalf of LBSF in the LBI bankruptcy looking for a return of  
21 the FirstBank collateral, Weil Gotshal didn't believe that  
22 this was a purchased asset, or that Barclays had acquired  
23 it.

24 So I think the Schedule A and the on Schedule A is  
25 a bit of a red herring, because it doesn't make it a

1 purchased asset.

2 We also made an argument in the papers that was  
3 never responded to, which is, Your Honor said, and I agree  
4 with Your Honor, there are things that come to light, don't  
5 come to light, because it never is the subject of  
6 litigation. But the testimony in the case was that Barclays  
7 -- Lehman was always using collateral. I mean, they use --  
8 you know, like you go to a bank, they don't keep your -- you  
9 know, your money in a safe deposit box. Banks use assets  
10 that are deposited with them, that's standard practice in  
11 the industry.

12 But there was -- there's nothing here to establish  
13 that the use of the collateral being made at that time  
14 continued subsequent to the 15th, because the evidence  
15 doesn't show that it did. It never continued from that  
16 point.

17 So if we accept the fact that A controls, as a  
18 matter of contract interpretation, and that all the -- and I  
19 believe there are many decisions on this, Your Honor. I  
20 believe that Your Honor has said in a multitude of decisions  
21 that you've described it as the North American business of  
22 Lehman. I mean, there's been a general description of what  
23 that business is that was being acquired. So there's been  
24 -- and I think the Evergreen Solar case, as I read it, I  
25 think the assumption that Your Honor was making in that,

1 that the assets in that were part of that.

2 But what happens where the assets are on Schedule  
3 A, but are not used in the business? The clarification -- I  
4 don't think that issue has ever been addressed by Your Honor  
5 in any decision, number one. And the plain language of the  
6 clarification letter is, that it needs to have both  
7 components of that.

8 We argued in our papers that what happened in  
9 circumstances where the account was taken. Since collateral  
10 was always in use, it's fair to assume that other collateral  
11 was used by Lehman on the Fed repo, and the Barclays'  
12 repurchase agreement, but that Barclays otherwise acquired  
13 the customer account.

14 I didn't see any case in which Barclays has ever  
15 claimed that if we assumed the account, and we argue this in  
16 our papers, where you assumed the account, that the  
17 counterparty or customer has to post new collateral because  
18 we own your collateral because it was being used. It wasn't  
19 interpreted that way.

20 If they assumed the account, if they assumed the  
21 contract, then whatever was posted as collateral continued  
22 to be collateral. Why should it be then if you don't assume  
23 the account, and if you don't assume the contract, that you  
24 get to keep it because it was used in the Fed repo, or it's  
25 used in the Barclays' repo? That's not consistent.



1 Now, there has been no analysis or discussion by  
2 Barclays of that portion, and I dare say if you read the  
3 papers submitted by Barclays, there are a lot of  
4 generalities. It's a stack of a lot of general statements  
5 of law in a one off case. But you don't see any discussion  
6 of used in the business. They're not arguing they're using  
7 it in business. They admit they did not, they admit they  
8 did not take our contract, yet they keep our collateral  
9 because of now, what is this thin read, never spoken, never  
10 discussed until now, of the existence supposedly of these  
11 repo continued after the 15th, which there's no evidence of  
12 continuing even when it touches them.

13 Now, among the other things, Mr. Morag handed me  
14 some papers I guess that he proposed in his argument to  
15 share with Your Honor, one of them being some of those  
16 emails to walk you through. He doesn't include in his  
17 exhibit the final response that Weil Gotshal made to  
18 FirstBank, interestingly, leaves that one out. He only  
19 gives you the behind the scenes communications between Weil  
20 Gotshal. I didn't look to see if it was Hughes Hubbard,  
21 too, but there was also Hughes Hubbard, but the  
22 communications back and forth with Barclays. He leaves out  
23 Cohen Exhibit 22, which is what we were told.

24 And he certainly doesn't mention -- he certainly  
25 leaves out the claim that the trustee filed in the LBI

1 bankruptcy to get our collateral back. He also mentions in  
2 one of the list of documents he proposes to show you that  
3 Schedule A was filed on September 29th, 2008 under seal.

4 At the time, I -- whether Your Honor -- I assume in  
5 the fog of the day, people thinking that my collateral was  
6 with LBSF and LBI's filing for bankruptcy that that's not --  
7 and LBSF is not in bankruptcy, I guess if the Court -- you  
8 know, the Court would have to presume that somebody would  
9 have to do more. But at the time of the filing of the -- of  
10 Schedule A, it was filed under seal, and FirstBank was not  
11 on any notice that its collateral was anything other than  
12 collateral.

13 In fact, the public -- assuming it even saw, and  
14 maybe it did, I don't know, but assuming it saw the  
15 clarification letter, the only conclusion you could draw  
16 from the clarification letter, is that ISDAs were not  
17 included under paragraph 21. So there was nothing in the  
18 public record to put FirstBank on any notice, inquiry or  
19 otherwise, that its collateral was in any way, shape, or  
20 form at risk, and that it was anything other than  
21 collateral. And the proposition obviously generally is,  
22 collateral does not belong to the debtor, it belongs to the  
23 party that posts it.

24 And we jumped ahead, just a couple of points here  
25 with respect to the idea of collateral. If you -- if the

1 Court accepts the fact that as a matter of evidence in the  
2 case, there's an admission from the expert presented by  
3 Barclays that even though there was a repo from LBSF to LBI  
4 of the FirstBank collateral, unbeknownst to LBI, that did  
5 not change FirstBank's interest or right to claim ownership  
6 of that collateral. They still appropriately reflected it  
7 on their books and records despite the repo.

8 Now, that's -- if you have that fact, it's an  
9 undisputed fact, if that fact is out there, you can't on the  
10 other side then say it belonged to LBI exclusively. Which  
11 it did not.

12 THE COURT: Let's break in for a second with a  
13 question about the nature of this collateral. My  
14 understanding is that this was book entry mortgage backed  
15 security collateral identified by CUSIP numbers. That the  
16 CUSIP numbers in question were actually on Schedule A.

17 And that inquiry by your client as to Schedule A  
18 would have led to the conclusion earlier on, that in fact,  
19 the collateral was there. But let's move past that.

20 The collateral itself is meaningless. We're not  
21 talking about a Rembrandt. We're not talking about unique  
22 collateral. We're talking about something that's measured  
23 in mark-to-market dollars. Under those circumstances, where  
24 the collateral is is meaningless. What you have is a claim  
25 against LBS. No claim was made as I understand it against

1 LBS. I can't understand how that could have happened.

2 As far as I can tell, we're in this litigation as a  
3 workaround for failure to pursue remedies that were  
4 available in the bankruptcy. Can you comment on that?

5 MR. MITCHELL: Well, that's the argument that  
6 Barclays makes, so obviously if the Court is addressing it  
7 in that fashion, then I assume the Court is adopting  
8 Barclays' interpretation of facts.

9 THE COURT: I'm simply asking you to respond what  
10 I've just said. It's not the interpretation of the facts,  
11 it's a question arising out of your constant use of the term  
12 collateral, with the notion it has secondary meaning.

13 MR. MITCHELL: Okay.

14 THE COURT: And that ownership has meaning in the  
15 context of default under an ISDA agreement. I'd like you to  
16 comment on that as well.

17 MR. MITCHELL: Okay. FirstBank was represented by  
18 Clifford Chance, competent counsel. The -- as a general  
19 proposition, without getting into attorney/client privileged  
20 information because I think you're treading upon areas, if I  
21 would explain to you the entirety of the analysis that went  
22 into why it was done the way it was done, that would be an  
23 evasion of the attorney/client privilege.

24 As a general proposition, I would say to you that  
25 if, in fact, this was collateral, then it's not an unsecured

1 claim against LBSF. It's property owned by FirstBank, and  
2 an unsecured claim against LBSF would be inappropriate.

3 So if you -- if this is collateral, which we --  
4 which the documents absolutely 100 percent, at some point it  
5 was collateral, even Barclays concedes that, if it was  
6 collateral, then an unsecured claim in the LBSF bankruptcy  
7 was inappropriate. Because FirstBank was not an unsecured  
8 creditor in the LBSF bankruptcy. It was owner and trying to  
9 retrieve its own property.

10 If I go beyond that, I think I would be treading on  
11 attorney/client privilege, but I think as a general --

12 THE COURT: But this is a financial transaction.  
13 This isn't a replevin action. We're not seeking to recover  
14 an artifact. It's all about accommodating the parties to a  
15 swap agreement that was in place for a very long time. And  
16 the pursing of "collateral" is simply an accommodation to  
17 moderate risk for one party or the other.

18 MR. MITCHELL: It's not an accommodation.

19 THE COURT: So part of what I'm having some trouble  
20 with here in your argument, is that your argument seems to  
21 be predicated upon a fairly antiquated notion of  
22 identifiable property, when in fact, this is little more  
23 than a claim not properly perfected against LBSF as debtor.

24 MR. MITCHELL: Well, Your Honor, in looking at the  
25 Evergreen Solar decision --

1 THE COURT: I think that's an important decision to  
2 look at too.

3 MR. MITCHELL: Right. One of the things that was  
4 not cited in Evergreen Solar was the case of Fire Off  
5 against Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company, and I presume  
6 nobody brought that to the Court's attention. It was a 2007  
7 Court of Appeals decision. It was on -- it was referred to  
8 the Court of Appeals by the Second Circuit on a question  
9 concerning collateral. This is a quote from the case, from  
10 the Court of Appeals.

11 So I'm not -- you know, we're on the diversity case  
12 applying state law in federal court, and the notions of  
13 conversion under state law are what apply. And this is the  
14 Court of Appeals. This is a Court of Appeals decision  
15 responding to the Second Circuit. This is a quote on page  
16 292 of the decision, which is 8 New York 3rd 283.

17 "The merger rule reflected the concept that  
18 intangible property interests could be converted only by  
19 exercising dominion over the paper document that represented  
20 that interest," citing a case. "Now, however, it is  
21 customary that stock ownership exclusively exists in  
22 electronic format. Because shares of stock can be  
23 transferred by mere computer entries, a thief can use a  
24 computer to access a person's financial accounts, and  
25 transfer the shares to an account controlled by the thief.

1 "Similarly, electronic documents and records stored  
2 in a computer can also be converted by simply pressing the  
3 delete button." Citing a case. "It would be a curious  
4 jurisprudence that turned on the existence of a paper  
5 document rather than an electronic one. Torching a  
6 company's file room would then be conversion, while hacking  
7 into its main frame and deleting its data would not."  
8 Emphasis omitted.

9 I think if there's any -- I don't think there's any  
10 doubt under New York law that after the Fire Off case, these  
11 electronic data entries of CUSIPs can be converted, and that  
12 was among the issues addressed by the Court of Appeals.

13 I don't know that anybody cited that case to Your  
14 Honor at the time of the Evergreen Solar decision. I think  
15 the Evergreen Solar decision is also distinguishable,  
16 because the different between Evergreen Solar and our case  
17 is, is there any question that our collateral has been  
18 specifically identified over and over again on document  
19 after document. We provide a -- first, we provide the  
20 CUSIPs, we get reported the CUSIPs. The CUSIPs are in the  
21 claim that LBI filed -- LBSF filed in the LBI bankruptcy.

22 Mr. Morag traced the use of each piece of  
23 collateral back to inception, in and out, in and out in his  
24 October 20th, 2011 letter.

25 THE COURT: There's no dispute the CUSIPs are

1 absolutely critical to the analysis, and CUSIPs have been an  
2 absolutely critical element throughout the Lehman Brothers'  
3 bankruptcy cases. Nor is there any issue with respect to  
4 the case that you cite, which I read in your papers, as to  
5 whether or not electronic data is equivalent to paper data  
6 for purposes of certain aspects of the law. But none of  
7 that matters here.

8 The issue is whether or not the property in  
9 question properly was hypothecated to LBI, properly used by  
10 LBI, and actually acquired under the sale order by Barclays.  
11 So, in a sense, while I'm certainly paying attention to  
12 everything you're arguing to me, the central thesis of your  
13 argument is this property was never LBI's to sell, was never  
14 actually covered by the sale order, and was actually not  
15 Barclays to purchase, even though it was on Schedule A  
16 because it was identified collateral under the credit  
17 support agreement or annex associated with your ISDA.

18 I believe that to be your central argument.

19 MR. MITCHELL: That's the second argument. That's  
20 not the central argument. The central argument is under  
21 paragraph 1 of the clarification letter. Whether or not it  
22 was owned by LBI, it was not a purchased asset at all.

23 THE COURT: Well, but --

24 MR. MITCHELL: Because it wasn't used in the  
25 business.



1 THE COURT: But you're kind of reading out --

2 MR. MITCHELL: It's excluded.

3 THE COURT: It's a particular way that you're  
4 reading a document that says "purchased assets shall  
5 include:" and you're suggesting that that shall language is  
6 necessarily modified by the, when necessary for the  
7 operation of the business, or used primarily in the  
8 business. Which is simply one way of reading imperfectly  
9 drafted language.

10 MR. MITCHELL: Well then, I would say, Your Honor,  
11 if Your Honor is -- if Your Honor at least -- I think the  
12 structure of the paragraph is clear; however, at a minimum,  
13 it's not clear what Barclays is saying.

14 THE COURT: There isn't much that in life that's  
15 really clear. So especially when parties have been involved  
16 in good faith litigation for years, where the facts are  
17 largely stipulated, but the legal conclusions are  
18 diametrically opposite. It's not that helpful for me to say  
19 that something is clear, when the reality is that there's a  
20 good faith dispute as to what the right answer is.

21 MR. MITCHELL: I agree with Your Honor on that. So  
22 what I would say to you is that either the Court can say the  
23 contract is unambiguous, in which event the parole evidence  
24 is irrelevant, it just says what it says. Or we allow for  
25 -- and by the way, we're a stranger to this contract.

1 So whether or not we've been barred from presenting  
2 parole evidence because it's not our contract, is also  
3 another question under New York law. But put that aside.  
4 If it's not so clear, and I think the drafting of this, the  
5 drafters, these are very smart people, I mean, they did  
6 create subparagraphs here. The --

7 THE COURT: A lot of --

8 MR. MITCHELL: Unclear would be then we'd turn to  
9 some parole evidence.

10 THE COURT: We can stipulate that a lot of really,  
11 really, really smart people worked really, really, really  
12 hard under extraordinary time pressure to deal with one of  
13 the most complicated transactions that has ever been devised  
14 in the history of modern finance, and was closed in Nano  
15 seconds in relative terms.

16 And so there is no one author of this document.  
17 The evidence is fairly clear to me that this was -- on the  
18 part of a committee, and it was done in a hurry, and there  
19 were lots of people, including some partners at Cleary  
20 Gottlieb who took part in the drafting of this document.

21 So we look at it as the manifestation of intent at  
22 the time. And it's my job to construe it, and it's your job  
23 to argue what it means.

24 MR. MITCHELL: I understand. And I think, Your  
25 Honor, that intent can be shown by the conduct of the

1 parties after the fact. And what I would say to you, in  
2 response to your question that nothing is clear, closest in  
3 time to the crafting of that document is that email  
4 exchange, and the filing of the claim in the LBSF -- in the  
5 LBI bankruptcy, that would indicate that principals to this  
6 agreement did not interpret this agreement to be  
7 transferring the FirstBank property, the FirstBank  
8 collateral to Barclays. That's in October, November 2008,  
9 January 2009.

10 These are parties that were -- they're part of that  
11 group of people who did their best to come up with  
12 something, and certainly they, who had possession of  
13 Schedule A, they had -- they certainly had Schedule A, they  
14 helped prepare it. They didn't take the position that the  
15 FirstBank collateral was a purchased asset.

16 Whether that was because it's not a purchased asset  
17 under 1(a), or because it wasn't owned by LBI, I don't know.  
18 We don't need to know. What we need to know is, that that  
19 was the position they took. So that should help the Court  
20 in interpreting what was intended by the parties, by this  
21 language that is included in here. And I have offered the  
22 Court an interpretation of why it would be that it would be  
23 interpreted that way. It's a fair interpretation.

24 I know Your Honor, you know, we're looking at a  
25 massive transaction that closed in a matter of days, the

1 Court was under tremendous pressure, I appreciate all that,  
2 I'm not arguing anything differently. What I'm saying to  
3 you is, I'm standing here on behalf of the FirstBank of  
4 Puerto Rico. FirstBank of Puerto Rico had \$62 million as  
5 collateral, always reported to it as collateral, that ended  
6 up in the hands of Barclays.

7 If you look at that from 60,000 feet, now whether  
8 or not Your Honor can say it's the right thing that  
9 should've happened under the circumstances is a different  
10 story. But under the facts of this case, every piece of  
11 paper that existed at the time, put it on absolutely no  
12 notice that its collateral was even at risk, that it was the  
13 subject of anything. In fact, the communications were to  
14 the contrary.

15 And lo and behold, we are in a world where their  
16 ISDA was not accepted, they didn't assume the ISDA at  
17 Barclays, but they keep \$62 million of their collateral as a  
18 purchased asset, and it's not even the business unit they  
19 purchased.

20 I -- you know, from a matter of -- and I know the  
21 law doesn't turn on fairness, but FirstBank had no ability  
22 to protect itself. Maybe -- and if we had even -- not  
23 saying that we had notice or we could have had notice, but  
24 FirstBank's \$62 million question in that one week of what  
25 was going on, when LBSF wasn't even in bankruptcy, would not

1 have had a second's notice, because there were bigger things  
2 the Court was dealing with.

3 So when the dust settled, and it certainly had  
4 settled by the time FirstBank says where's my property, when  
5 the dust settled, an inquiry is made to Barclays, where is  
6 my property, or where is the property. If it was on  
7 Schedule A at that point, don't we have enough good lawyers  
8 and smart lawyers working on this that they would've known  
9 it by then? Because the dust had settled a bit.

10 We allege in the complaint at the time, we didn't  
11 know all the facts of the case. We alleged in the  
12 complaint, is it unreasonable to have assumed that a  
13 transaction of this magnitude done on such short notice,  
14 resulted in a massive dump of assets on Barclays that needed  
15 to be sorted through. Some things could have come over by  
16 mistake, even Barclays' own expert admits mistakes happen.  
17 Things could end up where they don't belong.

18 But as you start to sort through things, and you  
19 start to put things into your computer systems, and you  
20 start to determine what belongs where, do we own it or do we  
21 not own it. By November, shouldn't you at least know if you  
22 bought something and it's on Schedule A? How hard is that?  
23 I mean 8,000 CUSIPs, so it's 8,000 CUSIPs, I mean, how many  
24 transactions does Barclays do everyday? They keep track of  
25 more than 8,000 CUSIPs. That was on the computer system in

1 a matter of hours, I'm sure. It was an electronic transfer.

2 So, you know, we aren't really talking about  
3 something that's like this innocent little mistake. I don't  
4 -- the evidence is, on a summary judgment motion, the  
5 evidence is that after having this material, they didn't  
6 think it was a purchased asset, and nor did LBSF. If it's  
7 so clear it's a purchased asset, why isn't somebody saying  
8 it?

9 So, Your Honor, I agree with Your Honor, you know,  
10 and I've read the decisions. You know, I'm sure you were  
11 under -- I'm sure Your Honor was under incredible pressure  
12 that week, you know, a week like any other.

13 THE COURT: This is truly not about me.

14 MR. MITCHELL: I understand that but --

15 THE COURT: So whatever pressure I was under has  
16 zero to do with the issues before me today.

17 MR. MITCHELL: Well, I hear from the question of  
18 Your Honor, and I'm just trying to address the notion that  
19 everybody did their best.

20 THE COURT: No, I'm not saying that at all. I'm  
21 responding in part to your assertion in effect using Weil  
22 Gotshal as a catch all for what the debtor knew or what  
23 certain parties knew at various times either leading up to  
24 or following the drafting of the clarification letter.

25 It's fairly clear to me that the clarification

1 letter was the work of a committee, that a number of parties  
2 had a role in drafting it. And it's also clear to me, and  
3 again, this has zero to do with anything that I did during  
4 Lehman week or thereafter, that parties were engaged in  
5 efforts to reconcile accounts. And that that was a massive  
6 undertaking, having to do with transferred accounts to  
7 Barclays, but also tens of thousands of derivative  
8 counterparties, of which your client is but one.

9 And so in that setting, the fact that there is  
10 imprecision with respect to certain CUSIPs that you care  
11 about, doesn't necessarily prove very much.

12 MR. MITCHELL: Well, Your Honor, on a summary  
13 judgment motion, I would say that at a minimum, it was raise  
14 questions of fact as to who knew what and when, and whether  
15 and to what extent those documents do constitute admissions,  
16 and clearly the people who were preparing and drafting and  
17 writing those documents were former Lehman employees,  
18 there's no question about that, they were employed by  
19 Barclays. It's not just Weil.

20 I'm only using Weil as the spokesperson, but it was  
21 Weil, it was Hughes Hubbard, it was Barclays. Because it  
22 was the group that responded ultimately by January on what  
23 should happen. And that's the record. I'm not making the  
24 record up, that's the record we've established in the case,  
25 that's the record before the Court on the motion for summary

1 judgment.

2 And I would say to the Court that even if the Court  
3 finds that there's imprecision, or if the Court finds  
4 there's imprecision in the clarification letter in  
5 connection with the drafting of the purchased assets  
6 provision, that those documents are -- you know, they're not  
7 documents that you could ignore on a motion for summary  
8 judgment. Certainly you can't grant summary judgment to  
9 Barclays in light of those documents crafted by its own  
10 people, it would raise a question of fact that would have to  
11 await trial for a solution.

12 THE COURT: But how --

13 MR. MITCHELL: For a trier of fact to determine the  
14 weight to be given.

15 THE COURT: How do you reconcile the fact that, at  
16 least as I understand it, Schedule A includes the CUSIPs in  
17 question. How do you reconcile Schedule A with inconsistent  
18 statements that are simply wrong?

19 MR. MITCHELL: Your Honor has pointed out, and we  
20 agree that -- well, I would say to you that the time to use  
21 FirstBank's collateral terminated, we all agree, on February  
22 15th. A use of our collateral is different than a sale and  
23 liquidation.

24 So the prior use -- the fact that our collateral  
25 was used on something is not necessarily and certainly



1 before the bankruptcy, not necessarily inappropriate. But  
2 what we have here is, the way this deal was structured, it  
3 was structured as a purchase. The Barclays' repurchase  
4 agreement was terminated, the termination letter with  
5 respect to the Barclays' agreement was terminated, and we  
6 ended with an out right asset sale, that that's what the  
7 Court ultimately blesses.

8 And that's when I said to Your Honor, you can't  
9 deem something to be the property of yourself, when it's not  
10 yours, because the bankruptcy court doesn't have  
11 jurisdiction over assets that are not assets of the debtor.

12 So the fact that Barclays and Lehman purported to  
13 deem everything on Schedule A because it -- which didn't  
14 exist at the time anyway, but we're going to deem everything  
15 on Schedule A belongs to Barclays. That doesn't bind a  
16 stranger. And it doesn't put the asset in front of Your  
17 Honor.

18 So whether you use the asset in some other fashion  
19 in a financing transaction at an earlier date, does not  
20 authorize the disposition of that asset permanently and  
21 forever in a liquidation transaction. That's also one of  
22 the things that our expert testified.

23 I know Your Honor's given me some time. I just  
24 want -- a couple of things. I just want to talk to you just  
25 briefly about the repo and why these repos, the LBSF, the

1 LBI repo is not or should not be treated in this case as a  
2 sale.

3 First, I already said to Your Honor, repos and  
4 reverses go together. Similar to accounts in collateral  
5 like you talked about in the 60(b) decision, like Judge  
6 Forest talked about in the 60(b) decision. So it's not the  
7 reverse. The repo and reverse are collective and they're  
8 maintained that way on LBI's books and records.

9 This is -- these are undisputed facts in the record  
10 of this case. LBI treated the repos with LBSF as secured  
11 loans, not as a sale. LBI never showed the FirstBank  
12 collateral on its own books and records as its own asset.

13 Barclays' expert admitted had FirstBank properly  
14 continued to list the FirstBank collateral as its own asset,  
15 after the repos. LBI's own books and records reflected that  
16 it did not own the FirstBank collateral out right. It used  
17 an RR designation to reflect its duty to return it.

18 LBI was already custodian for the FirstBank  
19 collateral, pursuant to a separate securities account  
20 control agreement, and was therefore bound as LBSF's agent,  
21 by whatever LBSF's obligations were to FirstBank. Obviously  
22 LBSF's right to use the collateral terminated on September  
23 15th, and LBSF filed a claim in January to get it back.  
24 Those are all facts inconsistent with full complete absolute  
25 ownership of the FirstBank collateral by LBI.

1           The Bankruptcy Code also has a safe harbor for  
2       repos. Repos are not subject to the bankruptcy stay. They  
3       can be closed despite a bankruptcy filing. So even the  
4       Bankruptcy Code envisions that repos are not full absolute  
5       and unconditional transfers of title to a debtor.

6           The only thing there really is --

7           THE COURT: I'm not sure what you just said is a  
8       fair conclusion to be drawn from the existence of the safe  
9       harbors in the Bankruptcy Code, but I'm just going to let it  
10      go by.

11          MR. MITCHELL: Well, Your Honor, I think it's fair  
12      to say that if there is an attempt to close a repo  
13      transaction -- if there's anything with respect to a repo  
14      transaction after a bankruptcy filing, it at least comes  
15      before the Court, and the Court would address those issues.  
16      It's not something that would happen outside of the purview  
17      of the bankruptcy court. Here we know LBSF had no employees  
18      of its own, no one acting through -- it acted only through  
19      the employees of LBI. The person responsible for the LBI --  
20      LBSF side of the collateral was an LBI employee. And he  
21      testified that as soon as LBHI filed for bankruptcy, he was  
22      told by management do nothing, to not return calls, to take  
23      no action.

24          Certainly there's nothing in any record in the  
25      bankruptcy case that I've seen, that anyone brought to your

1 attention the fact that there were open repos between -- of  
2 collateral of counterparties on contracts that were not  
3 being assumed by Barclays. That there were open repos of  
4 collateral from LBSF to LBI. Shouldn't the Court at least  
5 have had an opportunity to decide how this should be  
6 resolved, or what this -- you know, what all this meant?  
7 Why didn't somebody bring that to your attention? If they  
8 couldn't do it right away, why didn't somebody bring it to  
9 your attention right away? Hey, we have this problem.

10 Instead, all this got swept under the rug. In  
11 fact, Your Honor even in the 60(b) decision said, you didn't  
12 even see the clarification letter, and you never passed upon  
13 the clarification letter. So it's not even that the  
14 language that they chose in the clarification letter is  
15 language that the Court blessed. But isn't it fair to say  
16 that something like this, I mean, we're talking about \$62  
17 million of what is called collateral at some point, and is  
18 identified by CUSIP from an innocent party, disappearing  
19 into a \$45 billion sale to Barclays, when they clearly and  
20 expressly in many places say they're not going to do it.  
21 That's not part of what the sale is about.

22 Briefly so -- and obviously we gave you -- we have  
23 in the papers that these repos were not arm's length, and  
24 why, I talked about that briefly.

25 THE COURT: This argument has gone on for quite a

1 while, and I think it's may be time to highlight any points  
2 that you think you need to emphasize, and then we're going  
3 to take a short break.

4 MR. MITCHELL: Okay, Your Honor. Yeah, that's what  
5 I was going to do. I was summing at this point, just  
6 finding things that I want to -- that I haven't touched  
7 upon.

8 We talked about the LBSF and that we're a stranger  
9 to the clarification letter. So binding us by what Barclays  
10 and Lehman deem is not appropriate under the law.

11 I think the 60(b) decisions, both yours and Judge  
12 Farr's clearly presume that the only collateral transferred  
13 as a purchased asset was that securing publicly traded  
14 securities, and that it transfers as collateral. Both of  
15 you say that.

16 There is no mention in any decision, nor do I see  
17 from any decision that either you or Judge Farr might have  
18 ever been aware of the fact, that there was even the  
19 possibility that any collateral was separated from the  
20 obligation it secured by some inner affiliate repo that's  
21 unknown to the party that posts the collateral, and  
22 therefore, loses its collateral, it's character's  
23 collateral.

24 You know, that's something that if there was -- and  
25 I daresay the Court -- I can't speak for the Court, but I

1 don't know that the Court was aware, that there had been  
2 circumstances where collateral was supposedly separated from  
3 its obligation by a LBSF to LBI repo and that event alone  
4 was enough to allow that to go. But I've not seen any  
5 decision where that has ever been passed upon.

6 Also there's stuff in the papers they talk -- we're  
7 not challenging the sale order. It's not a 60(b) case. Our  
8 position is that the sale order only confirmed the transfer  
9 of purchased assets, and these are not purchased assets. So  
10 I think that's -- I think the Court understands that's the  
11 thrust of our decision.

12 The only mention of notice in our papers is that  
13 you can't take -- obviously it's fundamental due process.  
14 You can't take property without notice. I don't think  
15 there's any evidence in this record, or we had any notice  
16 that our property was even at issue.

17 The IBM case that we cited to the Court with  
18 respect to patents and the transfer of patents in the TM  
19 case is one in which that issue is discussed.

20 In conclusion, I'd say in the records of this case,  
21 Your Honor, at a minimum there are questions of fact that  
22 require resolution at trial. We think the only party that  
23 could be entitled to summary judgment is FirstBank based  
24 upon what we think is a clear interpretation of the  
25 clarification letter.

1 But in light of the evidence, close in time,  
2 following the execution of the clarification letter, and the  
3 entry of the sale order, it's clear that the principals to  
4 that document did not consider the FirstBank collateral a  
5 purchased asset. And the weight to be given to that  
6 evidence would be for a trier of fact if the Court finds  
7 there's an ambiguity, and cannot determine from those  
8 documents whether that's sufficient to grant summary  
9 judgment for FirstBank.

10 But you can't simply do as Barclays asks and ignore  
11 that evidence, because that evidence is in the record, it's  
12 undisputed, and it's clear what happened for a period of  
13 nine months after the fact, that FirstBank was told, your  
14 collateral is at LBI, and LBSF negotiated with FirstBank for  
15 return of that collateral, net of whatever the obligations  
16 were party-to-party.

17 Thank you, Your Honor, for the time, and I'm  
18 available for reply when we get to that. Thank you.

19 THE COURT: Okay. Let's take a break returning at  
20 a quarter to 4.

21 (Recessed at 3:34 p.m.; reconvened at 3:48 p.m.)

22 THE COURT: Be seated, please.

23 MR. MORAG: Good afternoon, Your Honor, again Boaz  
24 Morag of Cleary Gottlieb for Barclays Capital.

25 I'd like to begin basically by explaining why these

1 20 positions are purchased assets, and why the sale order  
2 disposes of this matter.

3 The one thing I think that I would want to point  
4 out though at the start is that Mr. Mitchell did not address  
5 at all our arguments under the UCC and Article 8. As far as  
6 I can tell, even if there were an issue with respect to  
7 LBI's capacity to convey securities to Barclays, under  
8 Article 8 we're protected, and they really have no argument  
9 in their papers why that would not apply.

10 We gave value. I can deal with that in more  
11 detail. The -- we took possession, we obtained control, and  
12 there's no allegation whatsoever that Barclays had any  
13 knowledge of FirstBank or FirstBank's relationship with LBSF  
14 or FirstBank's interest in these securities at any time in  
15 September of 2008, whatever time you want to think about it.

16 So that's just something to put out there. But  
17 with respect to the sale order, because that is the issue  
18 that and the reason that Judge Daniels referred this case to  
19 Your Honor, finding it a core matter because it requires  
20 construction of the sale order.

21 The reason that these are purchased assets is very  
22 clear. Because by the time the clarification letter was  
23 agreed and signed, and presented to this Court, the one  
24 thing that the parties negotiating that letter agreed on was  
25 that whatever the securities were that came over in the



1 repo, that had happened three or four days later, those were  
2 going to be purchased assets. And that is evident from the  
3 fact that that's what the clarification letter specifically  
4 says.

5 And frankly, that's what Your Honor understood it  
6 to mean, after having sat through the Rule 60 trial in  
7 Evergreen Solar, where you said that the clarification  
8 letter specifically provided that the rights and obligations  
9 of the parties under the repo, referring to the September 18  
10 Barclays' repo, including LBI's right to repurchase the  
11 transferred securities would terminate, and all securities  
12 held by Barclays under the repo would be deemed part of the  
13 purchased assets.

14 And I can walk through the specifics in Mr.  
15 Mitchell's reading of the language, the word includes and so  
16 on, but there are other provisions that make this very  
17 clear. And you first -- Your Honor has already outlined in  
18 your question, that you have the chronology down pat. That  
19 all of the repos to LBI occurred prior to September 15th.  
20 That from the date of the repo, whatever it was, onward, LBI  
21 used these securities, this is in the record in the letter  
22 where we traced back the use of these CUSIPs everyday in the  
23 relevant timeframe to finance its business.

24 It put them out on tri party repo when the  
25 financial world was still lending money to LBI, it put it

1 out to the Fed when the Fed was the lender of last resort to  
2 LBI, and for the period of time when the Barclays' repo was  
3 open as a repo, Barclays was the one providing financing to  
4 LBI, which as Your Honor knows, part of the broker dealer's  
5 business is to obtain financing for its operations.

6 So the first point is that this was used in the  
7 business of LBI. The fact that we did not, Barclays did not  
8 assume and take over the over the counter derivatives  
9 business does not negate the fact that LBI used these  
10 securities in its overall business that we did acquire.

11 Second, the word include is a defined term in the  
12 APA. It means without limitation and is not meant to be  
13 exclusive.

14 And third and finally what Mr. Mitchell did not  
15 address, was also paragraph 13 of the clarification letter,  
16 which Your Honor cited in Evergreen Solar which again is  
17 further corroboration effective at closing, all securities  
18 and other assets held by purchaser under the September 18,  
19 2008 repurchase arrangement among purchaser and/or its  
20 affiliates and LBI, and/or its affiliates and the Bank of  
21 New York as collateral agent, shall be deemed to constitute  
22 part of the purchased assets in accordance with paragraph  
23 1(a)(2) above.

24 So -- and as we pointed out, and nothing was said  
25 about this, the original argument was that it was an

1 expressly excluded asset, because of this idea that because  
2 we weren't taking the over the counter derivatives business,  
3 that meant that these securities were still being -- had  
4 this indelible characteristic of collateral for the rest of  
5 time.

6 And we pointed out that in the excluded asset  
7 definition in 1(c) on page 2 of the clarification letter,  
8 there is an express carve out of the definition of excluded  
9 assets for anything obtained in the Barclays' repurchase  
10 agreement. This in the middle of the paragraph on page 2,  
11 1(c).

12 So even if this would be otherwise related to over  
13 the counter derivatives, TBA mortgage notes, similar asset  
14 backed securities, these securities, everyone knew what they  
15 were, they were on a list. Those are not excluded assets,  
16 and they are clearly purchased assets, so.

17 And the one issue that Judge Daniels had at the  
18 time of the motion to dismiss was, I can't look at all of  
19 these papers outside the pleadings, I just need to know was  
20 it the intent of the parties that this be a transferred  
21 asset or not. And I think that is made clear by the  
22 chronology Your Honor mentioned.

23 LBI repos them to the Fed. On the 17th of  
24 September, they give Barclays the list of the Fed repo  
25 collateral, and says, this is what you're going to get. God

1 willing.

2 Barclays looks at it, says okay, fine, we'll do the  
3 repo. Barclays transmits \$45 billion of cash, that's  
4 stipulated. It's stipulated that these were with the Fed.  
5 They come across in that Fed repo on the 18th of September,  
6 they get booked by Barclays, and they get booked with values  
7 that there can be no question are appropriate, because  
8 indeed that's the valuation that FirstBank relies on for  
9 their highest intermediate damage number, whatever that is.

10 So then they come in on the date they're supposed  
11 to come in the transaction where they're supposed to come  
12 in, Barclays accepts them, it books them. The clarification  
13 letter then confirms the understanding that they will be  
14 treated as purchased assets because frankly, that was the  
15 one set of securities people could identify. That was the  
16 one thing that people knew exactly what it was, and the  
17 quantities, and the CUSIPs at that point.

18 Schedule A is finalized. As Your Honor knows, it's  
19 8,500 CUSIPs, there's also a Schedule B of clearance box  
20 assets that has to get finalized. It is presented to the  
21 Court under a motion jointly by the debtors and by Barclays  
22 saying this is the clarification letter, it's binding on the  
23 parties, this is on their understanding, and it includes  
24 these schedules of purchased assets that we need to file  
25 under seal, for reasons that Your Honor ultimately accepted,

1 which was the commercial sensitivity of knowing that  
2 Barclays may want to sell exactly these positions over the  
3 next coming months.

4 So -- and we're beyond the issue of, you know, the  
5 clarification letter. In Evergreen Solar, you put it very  
6 succinctly, although it was not formally approved, the Court  
7 has determined its unenforceable nonetheless.

8 So that's really it. These are clearly purchased  
9 assets. And let me say why I think we stop there. We stop  
10 there because Your Honor made findings in the sale order  
11 that LBI had the power to convey these assets. And Your  
12 Honor also provided a remedy for parties like FirstBank who  
13 claim an interest in the purchased assets.

14 Indeed, if you think about it, if the only assets  
15 that LBI was supposed to be conveying in this transaction,  
16 and under Section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code generally, are  
17 those assets in which no one in the world could possibly  
18 claim another interest, you wouldn't need the remedy that  
19 was provided for therein, which was the claim to make  
20 against the holder of the proceeds of those purchased  
21 assets.

22 And if as you heard they still take the position  
23 that this was never an asset of the estate, of any Lehman  
24 estate, it was quote collateral, and that makes it something  
25 different, that sounds like it would've been a pretty good

1 claim on the proceeds. They've never made that claim  
2 against LBI or LBHI who are holding those proceeds, and  
3 they're jointly and severally liable by the way.

4 So the point is that that's why -- but the one  
5 thing you also did is you enjoined this very lawsuit, which  
6 is the subject of a motion for contempt that we're deferring  
7 until after Your Honor resolves this motion, but -- so  
8 that's the one thing that in light of the principles of  
9 Section 363, in light of the findings that Barclays insisted  
10 on as part of this transaction, they couldn't do.

11 You can't -- the title passed free and clear, the  
12 order was not stayed, and the entire point is, at that  
13 point, the risks of interests coming out of the woodwork on  
14 a particular asset is with the party holding the proceeds  
15 from that sale.

16 That is how the sale order and sales like this are  
17 supposed to work. It is not as FirstBank suggests, we get  
18 to see the assets, have like 30 or 60 days to look at them,  
19 check the providence, okay, these are not Picassos or  
20 Rembrandts as Your Honor pointed out.

21 This is against the back drop of Article 8 of the  
22 UCC, where specifically you're not required, and you're not  
23 supposed to do diligence on your seller's chain of title.  
24 Precisely because of the way the markets work, and the  
25 decision made by the New York legislature, and every other

1 legislature who's adopted Article 8 of the UCC, that we do  
2 not -- that we have special rules for the sale of  
3 transactions and securities.

4 So this was no situation where we set the assets,  
5 look them over, send back some things that we don't like or  
6 want, or we have questions about, maybe Lehman sends over  
7 something else in exchange. We paid for this, and now  
8 they're asking us to pay twice, frankly. I mean, there's no  
9 other way around that.

10 And the other entity that paid for these assets,  
11 and I do -- but that is why I think you can stop at the sale  
12 order. They've conceded the facts that these were repo'd by  
13 LBI to the Fed and returned to LBI on the morning of  
14 September 18. That is what made it an asset of LBI, subject  
15 and eligible to be included in the sale, subject to whatever  
16 interests the world may have in those assets.

17 THE COURT: Let me ask you a question about the cut  
18 off date that everybody has stipulated to of September 15.  
19 Does it matter that the CUSIPs in question were transferred  
20 in to LBI in connection with the Fed repo, subsequent to  
21 that cut off date?

22 MR. MORAG: No, here's why. The use of that can be  
23 made of posted collateral by the secured party, LBSF was  
24 very broad. Your Honor has seen the quotation of Section  
25 6(c) of this CSA in every one of the briefs. They could

1 sell it, rehypothecate it, repo it, do anything, including  
2 totally lose control over any possible way of ever getting  
3 it back. Precisely because it's a fungible CUSIP that  
4 wherever it is, you can go out and find another one exactly  
5 like it in the same quantity.

6 So until February -- I'm sorry, and you did that,  
7 too. Until September 15th, LBSF was free to use these  
8 CUSIPs and repos, and you heard the concession that those  
9 uses were proper.

10 Now, what -- how does LBI get these CUSIPs. First  
11 of all, it's very important because it's important for Your  
12 Honor to understand.

13 You heard highly questionable repos, they didn't  
14 buy it, they borrowed it. Okay. Well, let's slow down.  
15 These are repurchased transactions under the documentation  
16 of the master repurchase agreement, which provided for a  
17 cash payment. We have produced and are in the record before  
18 you, the confirms for every single one of these repos, which  
19 are the same precise confirms that LBI would've used if  
20 Goldman Sachs or one of the test case plaintiffs who are  
21 coming up and have their own repurchase arrangements with  
22 LBI, were repurchasing securities with LBI.

23 And indeed, if I may, Your Honor, we have just one  
24 of the several -- oh, do you already have this?

25 THE COURT: Do you want to hand that up?



1 MR. MORAG: And what the repos show is that this  
2 was an ordinary course -- I mean, this is the transaction,  
3 it's memorialized the same way every other way repo  
4 transaction is memorialized as between LBSF and LBI, and as  
5 between LBI and other repo counterparties. And you're  
6 looking at a confirm for trades that settled on July 8th,  
7 and if you turn to page -- it's at the bottom of 16 in the  
8 Bates stamp.

9 Do you see there a transaction blocked in yellow?

10 THE COURT: What's the production number?

11 MR. MORAG: 016.

12 THE COURT: Yes, I see it.

13 MR. MORAG: Okay. So this is -- this represents  
14 all of LBI's repo activity with LBSF. If you look at the  
15 first page, which is 13, this is all of the transactions  
16 between Lehman Brothers, Inc. and the LBSF collateral repo  
17 account. And it turns out that one of these many securities  
18 is a FirstBank CUSIP. And there is a repo like this, is  
19 Exhibit 40 to my declaration, for every single one of these  
20 highly questionable repos.

21 And this is the amount, the \$3,737,000 that LBI  
22 paid in cash that day, obviously all of the payments were  
23 netted for one payment, but that is the amount in cash that  
24 is -- it was credited to LBSF for selling this CUSIP.

25 And the other point, if you could look at page 28,

1 which is the last page of the extracted confirm, condition  
2 -- terms and condition 10, again, there are standard terms  
3 and condition. "As payment shall be made in federal funds  
4 on the settlement date."

5 Okay. And in paragraph 20 at the bottom of that  
6 column, the second sentence, "If our capacity was as  
7 principal, we bought from or sold to you as dealer for our  
8 own account," and then it continues. And this indicates as  
9 principal, we bought from you.

10 So LBI transferred values. They don't ever suggest  
11 were inappropriate, inadequate, unreasonable in exchange for  
12 these CUSIPs. And it adds up, if you add up all of these in  
13 sums, it's \$52 million, because not all of the \$63 million  
14 worth of securities were ever repo'd to LBI, and therefore,  
15 never coming to Barclays. That's an issue known as the  
16 eight positions that we never received.

17 So LBI transfers cash to LBSF, Barclays transfers  
18 cash to LBI. That is what happened here, and frankly, on  
19 the issue of all of these insinuations and allegations with  
20 respect to these transactions, and people working for LBSF  
21 were employees of LBI, they have to do better than that.  
22 They need to come forward with evidence that would suggest  
23 that documents that they've stipulated to their authenticity  
24 and to their admissibility, which means that they're  
25 admissible for the truth of the matter asserted, are somehow

1 false and fraudulent.

2 Do you know how many -- yes, you do know how many  
3 creditors and parties in interests would've not -- wanted to  
4 know that all of these intercompany repos between LBSF and  
5 LBI were sham transactions? That has never been an  
6 allegation made in the four years of this bankruptcy. Like  
7 it's never been an allegation raised that Barclays somehow  
8 got something that they couldn't tell, and didn't properly  
9 treat as customer property when it should -- and they  
10 treated it as proprietary assets.

11 And the reason for that is, under the documentation  
12 that we lay out in our brief, LBI taking it on a repo, I'm  
13 not asking Your Honor, and you don't need to decide the  
14 ultimate philosophical question, is it a sale, is it a  
15 secured loan. It has aspects of both, okay.

16 The documentation says that it's a transfer of  
17 title, with a sale, with a right to repurchase, for  
18 accounting reasons, for tax reasons, it may be treated as a  
19 secured loan. But the very acknowledgement that it was on  
20 LBI's books and records under the heading RR, reverse repo,  
21 means under the master repurchase agreement, explicitly that  
22 LBI has the right to unrepo, to repo itself onward to get  
23 cash for the security.

24 And that is true, even though if LBSF called up and  
25 said, not just I want to terminate my open repo with you,

1 but the MRA is very specific. You -- LBI has no obligation  
2 to return the security under LBSF tenders the repurchase  
3 price, the cash, that it had received whatever months  
4 before, weeks before, days before to get back the security.

5 So statements from Mr. Mitchell like these repos  
6 were finished, it created the duty to return. Well, that  
7 duty only arises if LBSF were to tender cash. And we've put  
8 in evidence before the Court two different sources, the  
9 trustee's analysis, preliminary analysis, an Alvarez and  
10 Marsal report to the Court and to all the creditors, that as  
11 of September 14, 2008, LBSF had all of \$7 million of cash on  
12 hand.

13 So the reason that it -- LBSF did not run out and  
14 undo all of these repos is not because of collusion and some  
15 sort of malfeasance between LBI and LBSF, because of the  
16 reality that the whole entity was shutting down. They were  
17 not engaging in any new transactions, and certainly not --  
18 well, you would think it appropriate to somehow favor one  
19 similarly situated derivative counterparty over all others.  
20 To take whatever cash they had and undo that one set of  
21 repos for their benefit.

22 And indeed, on this point, if LBSF had access to  
23 the world -- the repo market, other than through LBI, and  
24 had repo'd these securities to Goldman Sachs, FirstBank  
25 would still be in the same exact position it is today. LBSF

1 would never have had the cash, would not have had the cash  
2 to get them back. They would've had a claim on LBSF, their  
3 contractual counterparty, they would've decided to forego  
4 that claim. Goldman Sachs would be sitting with securities  
5 they hadn't paid for. Barclays has done the exact same  
6 thing.

7 There were some other statements, and I do want to  
8 walk you through because I think it is important. I don't  
9 think it's legally relevant, and I'll tell you why. All of  
10 these emails and what was said and who was talking and in  
11 what capacity.

12 The first thing I would say on that point, Your  
13 Honor, is we would direct you to the legal standard, which  
14 was again, not addressed. It was asserted that everything  
15 is an admission of a party opponent. But in our papers, we  
16 cited Judge Kaplan's decision in Faulkner versus National  
17 Geographic. And that case holds.

18 There was a situation where a contract was found to  
19 be ambiguous, and therefore, parole evidence was properly  
20 considered. And one of the things that the plaintiff tried  
21 to introduce was the deposition testimony of various people  
22 at the National Geographic, the defendants, who opined that  
23 in their view, plaintiff was right on the meaning of this  
24 contract, and she probably should win.

25 And Judge Kaplan said that that was not admissible.

1 Because it doesn't reflect the position of the parties who  
2 negotiated this agreement. It certainly wasn't  
3 contemporaneous understanding expressed to the other side.  
4 And in any large organization that is careful and diligent,  
5 you're going to have a good faith understanding and some  
6 people may take a different view.

7 But what really matters is the position that  
8 National Geographic took, vis a vis the plaintiff directly,  
9 and formally, and whether that reflects what the contract  
10 really means.

11 So what you have here is a situation, and I'll get  
12 -- I want to show you each email and walk you through them.  
13 So FirstBank says, Barclays gets the securities as purchased  
14 assets, agrees with Weil Gotshal, and let's just be clear,  
15 we're talking about the same people who negotiated the  
16 clarification letter, who submit the motion to Your Honor to  
17 file it, to file the clarification letter and file Schedule  
18 A and B under seal.

19 This reflects the parties' intent. So it comes in  
20 as a purchased asset. No question at that point that  
21 Barclays understands it can do with it, it's a proprietary  
22 asset, that's what it purchased. It doesn't have to hold it  
23 for the benefit of anyone. That's the whole point of the  
24 proprietary assets. So that was September 22nd, September  
25 29.

1           Then these emails supposedly people decide, and  
2       you'll see why they don't in a minute, we hold this as  
3       collateral, it's not clear who we is, but whatever,  
4       collateral. And then -- but then Barclays goes ahead and  
5       sells it and keeps the proceeds.

6           This is not consistent. The other thing I want to  
7       explain and I will get to it, and let me hand up the emails.  
8       I will say this now and I will say it again at the end.  
9       FirstBank never contacted anyone at Barclays with -- anyone  
10      at Barclays period in, according to the record of everything  
11      that's before you until September 2009, long after they had  
12      learned from JPMorgan and others that Lehman, LBI had  
13      rehypothecated these securities to Barclays. Okay.

14           That's -- there is not one document in their  
15      exhibits or in ours, that shows a communication from  
16      FirstBank, a FirstBank representative to people at Barclays  
17      directly asking them, by the way, do you know anything about  
18      this, until we get the letter saying, we want our stuff  
19      back, and then they didn't give us the list of what their  
20      stuff is.

21           So the first email in this series is as they said,  
22      David Sullivan and Clifford Chance to Weil Gotshal, I don't  
23      think anyone really thought that Clifford Chance, they were  
24      talking to Barclays and asking them this question, here are  
25      LBSF statements, what can you tell us about this. Find

1 perfectly appropriate inquiry.

2 Fifteen minutes later, the next page, Weil Gotshal  
3 doesn't reach out to Barclays, it reaches out to --  
4 Barclays' legal department or Barclays' executives, it  
5 reaches out to the very people who under the transition  
6 services agreement and other arrangements made with the  
7 Barclays -- with Barclays for the benefit of the Lehman  
8 estate, there were going to be dedicated people to help the  
9 estate deal with everything the estates had to deal with.

10 Can we check whether Lehman still has the  
11 collateral described below? The next one, that's simply  
12 passing it off to a person who could look it up.

13 Email four, Allison, we hold the following  
14 collateral, and what's significant about this list, is that  
15 this is the exact print out from the Lehman records. And,  
16 of course, much was made of our expert's concession, if you  
17 will, that he conceded that FirstBank was entitled to report  
18 these securities on its books.

19 Well, that's a good thing, because otherwise  
20 FirstBank would've been committing securities fraud for the  
21 last four years, where they reported it as an asset on their  
22 books. They reported it as an asset on its books, because  
23 they have a claim against someone to get it back. We say  
24 the claim is against LBSF, and that's why they have a right  
25 to report it on its books.



1           So then there's email number five is asking you if  
2       this is -- who else's collateral this might be if it's  
3       clarified. And email six is uninformative. And so email  
4       seven, again, all within the same day, can I share this  
5       information with counsel for FirstBank.

6           Email eight, this is the first -- this is a  
7       question, do we know whether these positions are at LBI or  
8       had they been rehypothecated. Locke McMurry is an attorney.  
9       had they been rehypothecated is important, because anyone  
10      looking for possession would need to know that. And he asks  
11      the question. He doesn't say, of course they had not,  
12      they're sitting right here or whatever.

13           And then the response to that inquiry. This would  
14      be the collateral we know of, we do not know if it is still  
15      in the possession of LBI.

16           Emails 10 and 11 talk about the procedures, and on  
17      what capacity LBI at times held collateral for LBSF. LBI  
18      was the broker dealer. If LBSF had received securities  
19      collateral, somebody with the right plumbing, needed,  
20      especially for Fed book entry securities, needed to be  
21      involved in that process.

22           And now the Fiesta Resistance, the thing that was  
23      touted as the statement that LBI still holds this  
24      collateral. I didn't include it because it wasn't part of  
25      the same chain of emails. This is Exhibit 22 to Ms. Cohen's

1 declaration that supposedly is damning from Robert Lemmons  
2 back to David Sullivan at Clifford Chance. My understanding  
3 is that Lehman Brothers, Inc. may have the collateral and in  
4 the account for LBSF.

5 Your Honor, I can't tell you, and I've never been  
6 able to figure out why someone didn't call Cleary or  
7 Barclays' legal and ask about this. But it is undisputed  
8 that no one did until September 2009, and it's also  
9 undisputed that no one gave, in fact, false information.  
10 They thought it might be, but I don't know what you do with  
11 may have the collateral.

12 Certainly no motion was made, or application to the  
13 Court was made based on this email, saying, okay, so give it  
14 back because it's not yours.

15 So, Your Honor, I think what you have here, and one  
16 last thing on the function of LBI. I mean, look, we are  
17 just trying to defend our rights, not have to pay twice for  
18 this \$50 million of securities we actually received. As to  
19 the eight we never received, and there's not a scintilla of  
20 evidence that we ever did. I don't know why they are still  
21 pushing that, but I think clearly on that, there can be no  
22 issue of fact.

23 But -- and it's not our desire or job to defend LBI  
24 and LBSF and everything they did was perfect and that's not  
25 our issue. But our issue is that they've not come forward

1 with the evidence that would be necessary to challenge any  
2 of these documents that purport to show what they show,  
3 which is a repo at a market price.

4 Now, this issue about LBI was a custodian and  
5 should've known. We've briefed that issue before you.  
6 There is no -- the ISDA that they signed, and the CSA that  
7 they signed didn't appoint a custodian. It said not  
8 applicable.

9 Even if LBI was acting in that capacity, New York  
10 agency law is absolutely clear, acting as an agent does not  
11 impose on you liability unless you clearly expressly  
12 undertake such liability. Indeed, the whole premise is, if  
13 your agent messes up, the principal is liable.

14 So if agent is agent, LBI had done something if  
15 these securities were kept in-house, that was not proper,  
16 it's LBSF's liability, not LBI's.

17 So the fact that LBI was acting as a gratuitous  
18 agent without compensation for the -- when these securities  
19 were not out in the street, because as we showed in our  
20 papers, virtually everyday of every year, since they were  
21 posted, they were either rehypothecated to one of LBSF's  
22 counterparties, or out on a repo to LBI.

23 So they -- LBI was never actually acting as  
24 custodian for any lengths of time. And the reason -- and  
25 but having paid, so the first point is that they are not

1 bound by any of the terms of the CSA, they can't be said to  
2 be the same as LBSF. You can't conflate the two, and decide  
3 that they're bound by the restriction that if LBSF had these  
4 securities, it could not have done anything with them come  
5 the 15th of September, but it didn't.

6 Just as today, you know, Black Rock has some of the  
7 other eight positions. LBSF couldn't do anything about it  
8 then because it didn't have the wherewithal to do anything  
9 about it.

10 So the fact that LBI has gone out and paid cash in  
11 repo transactions to receive these securities, is not  
12 precluded in any way from having it been custodian, doesn't  
13 bind it in any way to the terms of the CSA, and doesn't  
14 require it to use some sort of clairvoyance in figuring out  
15 well, I shouldn't -- you know, it says reverse repo, that  
16 means my computer systems included as things that are  
17 eligible to -- on repo. But I should really try to figure  
18 out where these come from, because maybe it will reduce some  
19 claim in some bankruptcy if I don't use them. That is not  
20 the standard.

21 It's unfortunate for FirstBank it didn't happen,  
22 but that's not the standard, and it doesn't make LBI liable,  
23 and it certainly doesn't make Barclays liable.

24 Nobody came to LBI to close out the repo, so LBI  
25 was free to use those securities, just like you've read in

1 the papers in the test cases, and you will hear from that  
2 testimony, all of those securities were repo'd to LBI, and  
3 many of them were repo'd then to Barclays in the September  
4 18 repo. No one else in four years has come forward to  
5 suggest that that somehow is improper.

6 Indeed, one of the very first matters you had after  
7 the sale order was signed, was a creditor running in here  
8 named Friedman Billings and Ramsey, if you recall it, on a  
9 TRO, and an order to show cause.

10 THE COURT: I recall it very well, and I remember  
11 the argument was down in the auditorium.

12 MR. MORAG: And they -- it was disposed of on the  
13 ground that well, LBI had it under a repo, it was entitled  
14 to sell it, and Friedman Billings Ramsey had to withdraw  
15 their claim against LBI.

16 So we are here, not because this is terribly  
17 unique, but because they're taking a unique view of the law.  
18 But that is neither dispositive, nor critically important.  
19 The point is that, Your Honor, there are other people --  
20 there have been other people in similar circumstances, they  
21 protect themselves by filing claims.

22 If they actually added consistent with what you  
23 just heard their position to have been, this was never an  
24 asset of the estate, that's a great claim on the security --  
25 on the proceeds of the sale. You know, this is not

1 something you've never considered before.

2 You had an examiner appointed precisely out of  
3 concerns about this issue. There was nothing in the  
4 examiner's report on this, or to suggest that there was any  
5 issue with respect to LBI's transfer of securities.

6 So our point is, on that record, of what the Court  
7 can take judicial notice of, what the Court has, as part of  
8 the law of the case, which again is something that they  
9 don't contest that we've argued in our brief, that the Rule  
10 60 decision, the Evergreen Solar decision, the sale order  
11 itself, that's law of the case.

12 And they -- and presentation is made to the Court  
13 by fiduciaries, if you want to say they're false, if you've  
14 got to do something more than just say they're false. And  
15 on a summary judgment record, it's not enough to defeat our  
16 motion for summary judgment, for them to say, that they're  
17 highly questionable repos.

18 The employees worked for both companies, or the one  
19 company. That's not sufficient. And the other point I  
20 would close with, Your Honor, is what we have here is a  
21 situation that was anticipated fully in the finance  
22 literature. This is -- and this was before, both before the  
23 Lehman bankruptcy and particularly -- but also after.

24 And this is -- we quoted this in our brief in  
25 discussing why there is no conversion claim because what

1 they have is simply a contractual right against LBSF. And  
2 this is from the Harding and Christian Johnson text,  
3 Mastering the ISDA Collateral Documents, Second Edition,  
4 2012. "By agreeing to a rehypothecation, there is the  
5 possibility that the secured party could become insolvent,  
6 and therefore, be unable to return the posted collateral  
7 after the pledgor has made its payment obligations. The  
8 pledgor could possibly end up having met its contractual  
9 payment obligations under a transaction, yet not have the  
10 collateral returned to it, because it was no longer in the  
11 secured party's possession. This is because a pledgor only  
12 has a contractual right to the return of the collateral, if  
13 it agrees to rehypothecation."

14 That's what FirstBank did. And it knew how to not  
15 agree to rehypothecation when it signed, at the same time, a  
16 CSA with Bank of Montreal that specifically said, no rate of  
17 rehypothecation. This is -- and that's also precisely why  
18 this notice issue is a red herring. They did not get  
19 notice. They were not entitled to any notice. LBSF had no  
20 obligation under the standard form CSA that every bank on  
21 the street uses, to notify FirstBank of a rehypothecation, a  
22 repo, selling out right, whatever use might be made of  
23 securities collateral. There's no right to notice. There's  
24 no right to notice.

25 So what notice did they want to get? From whom?

1 So that's why there is no defect in the sale order. That's  
2 why the notice argument doesn't work with respect to the  
3 binding effect of the sale order. And that's why we think  
4 -- I mean, once Judge Daniels said, these assets on the  
5 referral motion to the Court, after he was able to consider  
6 things outside of the four corners of the complaint, to look  
7 at Schedule A, to look at the clarification letter, and  
8 said, these assets were ostensibly transferred under the  
9 sale order, so what rights Barclays had, and what rights  
10 FirstBank has, if any, are governed by the agreement.

11 At that point, they needed to challenge the sale  
12 order in a way that you would challenge a sale order. Which  
13 is a Rule 60 motion. This is simply a collateral attack on  
14 a sale order, and Your Honor, they knew everything they  
15 needed to know to bring that motion in July 2009.

16 One of the exhibits that we had before you, and  
17 I'll get you the number, one second, is the Senior Vice-  
18 President of FirstBank telling everyone at FirstBank,  
19 Barclays got these securities on September 18th. And he  
20 says that at a July 14, 2009 meeting. One year cut off for  
21 a Rule 60 motion was September 20th, 2009. This is how you  
22 would have to pursue this case.

23 I understand their argument is that they are --  
24 that these are not purchased assets, but they're wrong on  
25 that. Just like Bank of America was wrong that they could



1 set off against \$500 million in debtor property, despite  
2 their good faith belief and lawyers telling them that they  
3 could presumably.

4 So that's --

5 THE COURT: Thanks for validating that bankruptcy  
6 court decision.

7 MR. MORAG: Well, Your Honor, the point was that  
8 they -- I'm not validating it. The point was that they  
9 found out that they were wrong.

10 THE COURT: It was appealed and settled, but it's  
11 final.

12 MR. MORAG: It's the procedural posture is the  
13 same. They're finding out -- they will find out in the  
14 context of this summary judgment motion if they are right or  
15 wrong about their argument that it's not a purchased asset.

16 Unless you have any further questions, I'll sit  
17 down.

18 THE COURT: No, thank you very much.

19 Do you have anything further?

20 MR. MITCHELL: I do, Your Honor. That is the  
21 nature of litigation, if there's a good faith dispute, you  
22 bring a dispute, and it's resolved by a Court because you  
23 don't necessarily have to take an adversary's word for it.

24 I think the September 15th issue is important. I  
25 want to point out something to the Court, you don't have to

1 turn to it, but there's an interesting document. Barclays  
2 produced a document, they had a repurchase agreement with  
3 Lehman dated December 19, 1996. What's important is the use  
4 provision, which was paragraph 8.

5 And in the Barclays' repurchase agreement with  
6 Lehman, Barclays agreed, "nothing in this agreement shall  
7 preclude buyer," being the repo buyer, "from engaging in  
8 repurchased transactions with the purchase of securities or  
9 otherwise," this is important, "selling, transferring,  
10 pledging, or hypothecating the purchase of securities."  
11 That's the Barclays/Lehman repo.

12 The master repo agreement between LBSF and LBI does  
13 not include the word selling. It says, "Nothing in this  
14 agreement shall preclude buyer from engaging in repurchase  
15 transactions with purchased securities or otherwise,  
16 pledging or hypothecating the purchased securities."

17 So LBI holding the securities repo'd from LBSF,  
18 pursuant to that repo agreement, did not have the right to  
19 sell them. They had the right to use them.

20 So as I said to the Court previously, there's a  
21 difference between use and ultimate disposition. So in the  
22 hands of LBI pursuant to the plain language of the master  
23 repurchase agreement, it did not have the right to sell  
24 those securities.

25 THE COURT: Let's just say for the sake of argument

1 that you're a hundred percent correct in your conclusion.  
2 Where does it take you? Because the assets in question  
3 were, in fact, part of the Fed repo, were in fact sold to  
4 Barclays, Barclays in fact, holds those securities or has  
5 sold them or rehypothecated them, or done whatever they've  
6 done with them. The value is assumed to be 50 plus million  
7 dollars.

8 Where does it take you? Because --

9 MR. MITCHELL: It takes -- I'm sorry.

10 THE COURT: -- in the argument just made by counsel  
11 for Barclays, it's in the clarification letter, it's  
12 apparently part of the sale order. And in what way does  
13 your argument regarding permitted use improve your legal  
14 position relative to the barriers you have to get through?

15 MR. MITCHELL: First of all, the two bases for it  
16 not being a purchased asset, if it's not -- if there's no  
17 permitted -- if you can't use it at all after September  
18 15th, if you can't use the collateral, and it's now back as  
19 collateral --

20 THE COURT: But you're kind of missing the  
21 essential elements of the argument made in opposition to  
22 your position, which is at the time in question, LBSF sits  
23 with \$7 million in cash, it's not able to perform even if it  
24 could perform. The assets have been hypothecated,  
25 rehypothecated, transferred, call it what you will, LBI is

1 using them, and using them as they have historically used  
2 these assets to obtain financing. And in Lehman week, that  
3 financing was emergency financing offered by the New York  
4 Fed. Barclays takes out that position. They have those  
5 assets on Schedule A. There's a lot of conflicting dialogue  
6 as to where your collateral is, none of which seems to  
7 matter as I'm evaluating this.

8 How do you prove, how do you establish that these  
9 are not purchased assets? And how does the argument you've  
10 just made regarding limits on use advance your position?

11 MR. MITCHELL: Your Honor, I'd said to you  
12 previously, and I think the Court would agree, two strangers  
13 cannot deem something that belongs to you to be subject to  
14 another transaction. If I were to agree with Mr. Morag, I  
15 deem that, you know, something that is your property, we're  
16 going to enter into a transaction, now I claim it is mine,  
17 and we sell it. That's in effect, you can't do that.

18 The only thing that purports to transfer title to  
19 the FirstBank's securities, is the allegation that LBI and  
20 Barclays in the clarification letter, purported to deem  
21 everything on Schedule A to be an asset of LBI, and  
22 therefore transferred. That doesn't make it so. The Court  
23 has to examine whether in fact it's so.

24 The only basis for it to be so is the existence of  
25 this, what we've had substantial evidence of, non-arm's

1 length repo from LBSF to LBI. Let's assume they even  
2 transferred cash. Of course, the --

3 THE COURT: There's a confirm that shows cash was  
4 transferred.

5 MR. MITCHELL: This is a self-generated Lehman  
6 confirm to itself. So I don't know that the confirm  
7 confirms anything, other than what somebody purported to put  
8 on a piece of paper. It doesn't show -- there's no bank  
9 record that's been submitted to Your Honor showing that  
10 actual cash transferred. And --

11 THE COURT: Are you suggesting as you stand here  
12 that you have evidence that that's a sham transaction?

13 MR. MITCHELL: No. What I'm suggesting to you,  
14 Your Honor, is I read the examiner's report, and the  
15 examiner's report reflected billions of dollars of account  
16 entries back and forth between LBSF and LBI. Cash alone is  
17 not the way these parties transacted business.

18 The notion that the cash balance is the only way to  
19 look at this is not accurate. And as I recall the  
20 examiner's report, there were net cash -- net account out  
21 flows from LBSF to LBI prior to June '08, and then there  
22 were net -- the net account entries the other way. So cash  
23 doesn't mean dollars. Cash, for purposes of what the Court  
24 knows the record in this case to be, are account entries  
25 back and forth. So --

1 THE COURT: The same way that your securities are  
2 account entries.

3 MR. MITCHELL: Well, no, that's -- Your Honor, the  
4 difference is when the right to use terminates, there  
5 doesn't have to be somebody at LBSF raising their hand and  
6 saying, I'm writing you a check to get securities back. It  
7 simply is a reversal of the transaction. And the record  
8 that exists after the fact is consistent with the notion  
9 that that's how that was treated after the fact by the  
10 people who knew.

11 Now, to say, you know, Mr. Morag --

12 THE COURT: How could you say that there's a record  
13 consistent with reversal of the transaction, when in fact,  
14 at closing Barclays had the CUSIPs?

15 MR. MITCHELL: Well, Lehman had --

16 THE COURT: They're on Schedule A.

17 MR. MITCHELL: LBI -- but they were using the  
18 CUSIPs. Because they were using them. They had a right to  
19 use them. Under --

20 THE COURT: I'm having some trouble with your  
21 argument, because you're using what may be completely  
22 extraneous and irrelevant jottings in emails, as being  
23 inconsistent with Schedule A, which in fact, existed and  
24 included the CUSIPs.

25 MR. MITCHELL: Okay.

1 THE COURT: And, in fact, what happened  
2 transactionally is that on September 18th, Barclays took  
3 over the New York Fed repo and your CUSIPs were part of  
4 that. That's a fact. And it's indisputable. And how can  
5 you possibly get around it?

6 MR. MITCHELL: Well, first thing, Your Honor, my --  
7 the ultimate transaction is an asset purchase, right. At  
8 the end of the day, it's an asset purchase. The repos were  
9 unwound. The termination of the repo was unwound, and we  
10 end up with an asset purchase.

11 So we're not talking about a default of a repo.  
12 We're talking about an asset purchase confirmed by a  
13 bankruptcy court sale order, that can confirm nothing more  
14 than assets of the LBI estate.

15 THE COURT: That's true. But what actually  
16 happened here and it was all happening very quickly, is that  
17 the repo transaction took place on September 18th, the sale  
18 hearing took place on September 19th into the early morning  
19 hours of September 20th, and the transaction closed with a  
20 clarification letter as of September 22, that Monday. I'm  
21 very familiar with the timeline.

22 I'm also familiar with Schedule A. What I'm not  
23 familiar with is how you can be using miscellaneous shards  
24 of information to somehow contradict some obvious facts  
25 which obviously doesn't work to your position, but the

1 assets are in Schedule A.

2 You may say they never should have been on Schedule  
3 A, you may say that it was your property that was  
4 misappropriated in putting it in Schedule A. You may say as  
5 a matter of law that LBI didn't have, at that time, the  
6 legal capacity to sell, and it shouldn't have been deemed  
7 purchased assets. But this litigation isn't the way to get  
8 to that result.

9 In fact, it's final. And it's final because of the  
10 sale order. And it's final because of the 60(b) litigation.  
11 And it's final because it's been going on for literally more  
12 than four years.

13 And so this really does seem to be a collateral  
14 attack against the purchaser that obtained in a sale order  
15 appropriate language to protect it against this kind of  
16 collateral attack. And also, your client for whatever  
17 reason, appears not to have taken appropriate steps to  
18 protect itself either in this bankruptcy case or the related  
19 SIPA proceeding involving LBI. I can't imagine why it  
20 didn't, but it didn't.

21 MR. MITCHELL: It did, Your Honor. That's not  
22 true.

23 THE COURT: What did it do?

24 MR. MITCHELL: After -- let's go back and look at  
25 -- you know, Mr. -- if you accept --



1 THE COURT: Tell me what your client did to protect  
2 itself.

3 MR. MITCHELL: It filed a claim in the LBI -- after  
4 receiving all of this information, it filed a claim in the  
5 LBI bankruptcy case.

6 THE COURT: But its counterparty is LBSF.

7 MR. MITCHELL: But it discovered -- it learned that  
8 its property was at LBI. We also now know that at the  
9 securities --

10 THE COURT: Its property was at LBI for a Nano  
11 second during this bankruptcy. It moved on September 18.

12 MR. MITCHELL: LBI was -- Your Honor, there is a --  
13 first of all, all of this property was at LBI. That's where  
14 the property resided. There was an account number for LBI.

15 THE COURT: But it's counterparty was LBSF. Its  
16 claims belonged as against LBSF. LBI may have been a  
17 custodian, but the property wasn't there.

18 MR. MITCHELL: Your Honor --

19 THE COURT: The only kind of claim that could have  
20 been made that would have been a meaningful claim would be a  
21 customer claim. But a customer claim against LBI would be  
22 meaningless because there was no property to return.

23 MR. MITCHELL: Well, Your Honor, I thought if there  
24 was an issue here with respect to the transaction, I thought  
25 there was an issue of a sale of assets from LBI to LBSF to

1 LBI.

2 So the question Your Honor asked, what did your  
3 client do. What my client did, is my client did file a  
4 claim in the LBI bankruptcy. What happened subsequent to  
5 that is the lawyer who filed the claim changed firms, filed  
6 a notice of change of counsel. When the claim was denied,  
7 instead of sending the denial to the new firm, it went to  
8 the old firm. The lawyer wasn't at the old firm. And  
9 notice of that claim denial was never received by FirstBank  
10 because it was sent by the trustee to the wrong place.  
11 That's the subject of a separate motion before Your Honor.  
12 But my client did try to protect itself in the bankruptcy  
13 following all of the information that it was receiving, by  
14 communicating with the trustee, and with Weil Gotshal.

15 So it was trying to protect itself. Whether Your  
16 Honor agrees with Barclays that its only possible way to go  
17 was to file a claim in the LBSF bankruptcy, which I contend  
18 to the Court is inconsistent with the claim that it's my  
19 property. We can disagree on that in terms of that issue --

20 THE COURT: We can and do disagree on that.

21 MR. MITCHELL: I understand. Then you can --

22 THE COURT: Virtually every other counterparty on  
23 the planet filed claims in the LBHI and LBSF cases to the  
24 extent that they arose out of ISDA agreements.

25 MR. MITCHELL: So they became -- so parties who may

1 have had a claim of right to collateral, 100 percent, become  
2 unsecured creditors receiving less than a hundred cents on  
3 the dollar because they voluntarily converted themselves  
4 into unsecured claimants as opposed to claiming their own  
5 property back. But there are other ways to proceed in a  
6 particular case.

7 I can only tell you that there is nothing improper  
8 that I see, in the notion that certainly with the record  
9 that was available to FirstBank, that it pursues a claim to  
10 receive its collateral. Because there's no doubt it was  
11 collateral.

12 And what comes out in discovery in this case, only  
13 in discovery in this case, is the existence of the repo. I  
14 do not see in any record in any case, any discussion of LBSF  
15 to LBI repos of counterparty collateral. I've never seen it  
16 discussed. I've never seen the import of that discussed.  
17 The Court has never ruled upon it. This would be the first  
18 case in which the Court has done so.

19 We certainly have a right to have the Court rule on  
20 something like that, what is the import of it and why. We  
21 have pointed to the Court reasons why it should not  
22 necessarily be taken that way, but there is no res judicata  
23 law of the case on the Court ruling, that these LBSF to LBI  
24 repos about which the Court was unaware at the time it  
25 issued the sale order, or the be all and end all of why it

1 becomes property of the estate. And whether, in fact, it is  
2 so, notwithstanding the fact that LBI never treated these as  
3 an outright sale, that LBI has the authority and right, even  
4 though it books it as a secured loan to sell somebody else's  
5 property as its own in a liquidation sale. There's no  
6 ruling on that in any case. I've never seen a ruling on  
7 that.

8 And as I say, Your Honor, you know, to call us to  
9 task for challenging something that we -- there's no doubt  
10 if you take a step back from this, this was collateral for  
11 us. Collateral for us is not a claim against LBSF. Maybe  
12 in the course of discovery in this case, facts are adduced  
13 that the Court has never addressed, that we certainly think  
14 are facts that should be addressed by the Court.

15 Maybe Your Honor agrees that the LBSF to LBI repo  
16 changes everything, but this would be the first time you've  
17 ever said that. So from the standpoint of what this case is  
18 and what this case was when we filed it, it was a claim that  
19 we had collateral posted, that collateral was ours, it was  
20 not part of the estate, and that is the law. I'm not making  
21 the law up, collateral doesn't belong to a debtor. You  
22 can't sell somebody else's property. You can't deem it to  
23 be yours.

24 With respect to what we did to protect ourselves.  
25 Mr. Morag, his Exhibit 12 that read, you know, oh, they're

1 writing to people, Locke McMurray at Barclays.com. The  
2 heading is collateral inquiry by FirstBank of Puerto Rico.  
3 Answer, "LBI holds collateral for LBSF pursuant to the  
4 attached control agreement, one for each affiliate. Dan  
5 might be able to tell us the exact title of the accounts,  
6 but LBI acts exclusively for LBSF pursuant to this  
7 agreement."

8 With respect to the FirstBank collateral, what does  
9 FirstBank do? It files a claim in the LBI bankruptcy. So  
10 it's inquiring what to do. It's not true that we sat on  
11 rights.

12 You know, you can make these grand statements, but  
13 there is a record in this case. Subsequent to all this,  
14 LBSF negotiated with FirstBank for months. They went back  
15 and forth. The record is before you on close-out figures to  
16 give us our collateral back.

17 At the end of the process, the only communication  
18 was, we don't have your collateral, not that Barclays has  
19 your collateral. FirstBank goes to JPMorgan, says where did  
20 the collateral go, we'd like to know where the collateral  
21 is. JPMorgan doesn't say anything. We file a 2004 motion  
22 in August. The 2004 motion is never heard, because finally  
23 they say Barclays has it, and we make a demand of Barclays.

24 We didn't sit on our rights. That's just not true.  
25 So there's a record here, Your Honor. At a minimum, this

1 should go to a jury or a trier of fact to decide this on the  
2 merits. There are facts here. This is -- the clarification  
3 letter is not an abundance of clarity. What is clear is  
4 paragraph 21 says, ISDAs are not included.

5 Our CSA is connected to an ISDA. It's not an  
6 included asset. It's an excluded asset. It's plain as day.  
7 So to say we should have, based upon the record that  
8 existed, made a claim in the LBSF bankruptcy is self-  
9 serving. It's not mitigation of damages. It's none of the  
10 thing.

11 Damages, mitigation of damages is when you do  
12 something to exacerbate your damages. I make it worse. The  
13 claim is, we had a -- let's say we even had a claim against  
14 LBSF, we may have a variety of claims against different  
15 parties. But certainly our claim against LBI with what we  
16 now know under the securities account control agreement, we  
17 had an account with LBI, designated specifically to us. But  
18 we never had a chance to challenge that because they sent  
19 the notice denying the claim to the wrong place. That's the  
20 subject of another motion before Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Your argument --

22 MR. MITCHELL: So we did what --

23 THE COURT: Your argument is passionate, but it does  
24 not change the fact that most institutions in your position  
25 having LBSF as its counterparty in fact filed claims in the

1 LBSF case, and received distributions I might add.

2 So part of the problem here is self-imposed. The  
3 choices that were made by your client and predecessor  
4 counsel are what they are, but in effect, you have boxed  
5 yourselves. Because now your best argument is against a  
6 good faith purchaser for value.

7 MR. MITCHELL: If Your Honor concludes its  
8 purchased asset, then obviously -- then that changes the  
9 equation. If it's not a purchased asset, then they're not a  
10 good faith purchaser for value, the UCC doesn't apply. And  
11 the question is, is it a purchased asset, could it be a  
12 purchased asset, and I daresay, Your Honor, that this case  
13 presents to the Court facts that have never before, to my  
14 knowledge, been presented to the Court in connection with  
15 this proceeding.

16 Other cases are not -- you've not seen on a full  
17 record the situation that's present here. You haven't. And  
18 there's no ruling on anything that's consistent with this.  
19 And we have a right. It's not an affront to the system,  
20 it's not an affront to the sale order, no affront is  
21 intended, because the notion that collateral doesn't belong  
22 to a debtor is hardly controversial.

23 So it would be an appropriate claim to say it's not  
24 an asset of the debtor, therefore, you didn't acquire it,  
25 Barclays is the appropriate defendant. The facts here, at a

1 minimum, are murky. I mean, there's no -- to just  
2 completely ignore the string of emails which are connected  
3 to us because they're precipitated by our inquiry. They  
4 contain headings on emails that say FirstBank Puerto Rico,  
5 and they precipitate after responses are given, action. We  
6 file a claim in the LBI bankruptcy.

7 LBSF files a claim on our behalf in the LBI  
8 bankruptcy. LBSF negotiates with us to return our  
9 collateral. What do all those facts mean?

10 In order to say -- Mr. Morag, to come up here and  
11 say, this is absolutely abundantly crystal clear --

12 THE COURT: That's what you said during your  
13 argument.

14 MR. MITCHELL: No, it's crystal -- I said it's  
15 crystal clear that they can't say that for their side of the  
16 case, because you can't explain all this away. Why is no  
17 one saying --

18 THE COURT: You actually pointed --

19 MR. MITCHELL: -- nobody knew it was on Schedule A?

20 THE COURT: You actually pointed me to a paragraph  
21 of the clarification letter and suggested that it was  
22 crystal clear that this was not a purchased asset.

23 MR. MITCHELL: Right.

24 THE COURT: Both of you are engaged in what  
25 litigators do all the time, taking what you now say is



1 murky, and saying that it's clear, when it suits the  
2 purposes of your argument. The point is, and I'm not  
3 pressing you or calling you to task, that you have an  
4 extraordinarily weak position. I'm taking it under  
5 advisement.

6 MR. MITCHELL: Thank you, Your Honor.

7 (Proceedings concluded at 4:51 PM)

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I N D E X

R U L I N G S

DESCRIPTION	PAGE
-------------	------

Status Conferences:

1) Joint Motion of Lehman Brothers	10
------------------------------------	----

Holdings, Inc. and Litigation Subcommittee of  
Creditors committee to Extend Stay of Avoidance  
Actions and Grant Certain Related Relief  
(ECF No. 33322)

2) LBHI's Objection to Proofs of Claim	15
--	----

Number 14824 and 14826 (ECF No. 30055)

Uncontested Matter: First and Final Fee	40
---	----

Application of Epiq Bankruptcy Solutions, LLC,  
as Solicitation and Voting Agent to the Debtors  
for Allowance and Payment of Compensation for  
Professional Services Rendered and For  
Reimbursement of Actual and Necessary Expenses  
Incurred from September 1, 2011 through  
December 6, 2011 (ECF No. 27762)

I N D E X

R U L I N G S, CONTD.

DESCRIPTION

PAGE

Adversary Proceedings:

1) Walton, et al v Lehman Brothers, 45  
Inc., et al (Adversary Case No. 12-01898),  
Motions to Dismiss

a) Motion of Bank of America, N.A. 48  
and Federal National Mortgage Association to  
Dismiss Adversary Proceeding (ECF No. 8)

b) Memorandum of Law of Bank of 48  
America, N.A. and Federal National Mortgage  
Association in Support of Motion to Dismiss  
(ECF No. 9)

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Sheila G. Orms, certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the official electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

Dated: January 18, 2013

Signature of Approved Transcriber

Veritext

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